

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION
ADMINISTRATION BOARD,
as Liquidating Agent of Southwest Corporate
Federal Credit Union,

v.

Defendants.

[illegible]

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

COMPLAINT

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Plaintiff, the National Credit Union Administration Board (“NCUA Board”), brings this action in its capacity as Liquidating Agent of Southwest Corporate Federal Credit Union (“Southwest”) against Goldman, Sachs & Co. (“Goldman Sachs”) as underwriter and seller, and against GS Mortgage Securities Corp. (the “Issuer Defendant”), as issuer, of certain residential mortgage-backed securities (“RMBS”) purchased by Southwest, and alleges as follows:

I. NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This action arises out of the sale of RMBS to Southwest where Goldman Sachs acted as underwriter and/or seller of the RMBS.

2. All of the RMBS sold to Southwest were rated as triple-A (the same rating as U.S. Treasury bonds) at the time of issuance.

3. The Issuer Defendant issued and Goldman Sachs underwrote and sold the RMBS pursuant to registration statements, prospectuses, prospectus supplements, term sheets, free writing prospectuses, and other written materials (collectively, the “Offering Documents”). These Offering Documents contained untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts in violation of Sections 11 and 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 (“Securities Act”), 15 U.S.C. §§ 77k, 77l(a)(2) (“Section 11” and “Section 12(a)(2),” respectively), the Texas Securities Act, Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. Ann. art. 581, § 33 (“Texas Blue Sky Law”).

4. The Offering Documents described, among other things, the mortgage underwriting standards of the originators who made the mortgages that were pooled and served as the collateral for the RMBS purchased by Southwest (“the Originators”).

5. The Offering Documents represented that the Originators adhered to the underwriting guidelines set out in the Offering Documents for the mortgages in the pools collateralizing the RMBS.

6. In fact, the Originators had systematically abandoned the stated underwriting guidelines in the Offering Documents. Because the mortgages in the pools collateralizing the RMBS were largely underwritten without adherence to the underwriting standards in the Offering Documents, the RMBS were significantly riskier than represented.

7. These untrue statements and omissions were material because the value of RMBS is largely a function of the cash flow from the principal and interest payments on the mortgage loans collateralizing the RMBS. Thus, the performance of the RMBS is tied to the borrower's ability to repay the loan.

8. Southwest purchased certain RMBS issued by the Issuer Defendant and underwritten and/or sold by Goldman Sachs as indicated in Table 1 (*infra*). Defendants are therefore liable for material untrue statements and omissions of fact in the Offering Documents for these RMBS under Section 11, Section 12(a)(2) and/or the Texas Blue Sky Law as indicated in Table 1 (*infra*).

Table 1

CUSIP ¹	Issuing Entity	Depositor	Trade Date	Price Paid	Claims
3622EAAX8	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3	GS Mortgage Securities, Corp.	2/21/2007	\$20,000,000	§ 11, § 12(a)(2) and Texas Blue Sky
3622ECAC0	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	GS Mortgage Securities, Corp.	4/26/2007	\$10,000,000	§ 11, § 12(a)(2) and Texas Blue Sky
54251TAD1	Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	Long Beach Securities Corp.	8/24/2006	\$10,000,000	Texas Blue Sky

9. The RMBS Southwest purchased suffered a significant drop in market value. Southwest has suffered significant losses from those RMBS purchased despite the NCUA Board's mitigation efforts.

¹ "CUSIP" stands for "Committee on Uniform Securities Identification Procedures." A CUSIP number is used to identify most securities, including certificates of RMBS. See CUSIP Number, <http://www.sec.gov/answers/cusip.htm>.

II. PARTIES AND RELEVANT NON-PARTIES

10. The National Credit Union Administration (“NCUA”) is an independent agency of the Executive Branch of the United States Government that, among other things, charters and regulates federal credit unions, and operates and manages the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (“NCUSIF”) and the Temporary Corporate Credit Union Stabilization Fund (“TCCUSF”). The TCCUSF was created in 2009 to allow the NCUA to borrow funds from the United States Department of the Treasury (“Treasury Department”) for the purposes of stabilizing corporate credit unions under conservatorship or liquidation, or corporate credit unions threatened with conservatorship or liquidation. The NCUA must repay all monies borrowed from the Treasury Department for the purposes of the TCCUSF by 2021 through assessments against all federally insured credit unions in the country. The NCUSIF insures the deposits of account holders in all federal credit unions and the majority of state-chartered credit unions. The NCUA has regulatory authority over state-chartered credit unions that have their deposits insured by the NCUSIF. The NCUA is under the management of the NCUA Board. *See* Federal Credit Union Act, 12 U.S.C. §§ 1751, 1752a(a) (“FCU Act”).

11. Southwest was a federally chartered corporate credit union with its offices and principal place of business in Plano, Texas. As a corporate credit union, Southwest provided investment and financial services to other credit unions.

12. On September 24, 2010, the NCUA Board placed Southwest into conservatorship pursuant to the FCUA, 12 U.S.C. § 1751, *et seq.* On October 31, 2010, the NCUA Board placed Southwest into involuntary liquidation, appointing itself Liquidating Agent.

13. Pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1787(b)(2)(A), the NCUA Board as Liquidating Agent has succeeded to all rights, titles, powers, and privileges of Southwest and of any member, account holder, officer or director of Southwest, with respect to Southwest and its assets,

including the right to bring the claims asserted in this action. As Liquidating Agent, the NCUA Board has all the powers of the members, directors, officers, and committees of Southwest, and succeeds to all rights, titles, powers, and privileges of Southwest. *See* 12 U.S.C. §1787(b)(2)(A). The NCUA Board may also sue on Southwest's behalf. *See* 12 U.S.C. §§ 1766(b)(3)(A), 1787(b)(2), 1789(a)(2).

14. Prior to being placed into conservatorship and involuntary liquidation, Southwest was one of the largest corporate credit unions in the United States.

15. Any recoveries from this legal action will reduce the total losses resulting from the failure of Southwest. Losses from Southwest's failure must be paid from the NCUSIF or the TCCUSF. Expenditures from these funds must be repaid through assessments against all federally insured credit unions. Because of the expenditures resulting from Southwest's failure, federally insured credit unions will experience larger assessments, thereby reducing federally insured credit unions' net worth. Reductions in net worth can adversely affect the dividends that individual members of credit unions receive for the savings on deposit at their credit union. Reductions in net worth can also make loans for home mortgages and automobile purchases more expensive and difficult to obtain. Any recoveries from this action will help to reduce the amount of any future assessments on credit unions throughout the system, reducing the negative impact on federally insured credit unions' net worth. Recoveries from this action will benefit credit unions and their individual members by increasing net worth resulting in more efficient and lower-cost lending practices.

16. Goldman Sachs is an SEC registered broker-dealer. Goldman Sachs acted as an underwriter of certain RMBS that are the subject of this Complaint as indicated in Table 1 (*supra*). Goldman Sachs is a New York corporation with its principal place of business in New

York.

17. GS Mortgage Securities Corp. is the depositor and the issuer of certain RMBS that are the subject of this Complaint as indicated in Table 1 (*supra*). GS Mortgage Securities Corp. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in New York.

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

18. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to: (a) 12 U.S.C. § 1789(a)(2), which provides that “[a]ll suits of a civil nature at common law or in equity to which the [NCUA Board] shall be a party shall be deemed to arise under the laws of the United States, and the United States district courts shall have original jurisdiction thereof, without regard to the amount in controversy”; and (b) 28 U.S.C. § 1345, which provides that “the district courts shall have original jurisdiction of all civil actions, suits or proceedings commenced by the United States, or by any agency or officer thereof expressly authorized to sue by Act of Congress.”

19. Venue is proper in this District under Section 22 of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77v(a) and/or 28 U.S.C. §1391(b)(1), because each Defendant is a resident of/conducts business in this District. This Court has personal jurisdiction over each Defendant they are residents of/conduct business in this District.

IV. MORTGAGE ORIGINATION AND THE PROCESS OF SECURITIZATION

20. RMBS are asset-backed securities. A pool or pools of residential mortgages are the assets that back or collateralize the RMBS certificates purchased by investors.

21. Because residential mortgages are the assets collateralizing RMBS, the origination of mortgages commences the process that leads to the creation of RMBS. Originators decide whether to loan potential borrowers money to purchase residential real estate through a process called mortgage underwriting. The originator applies its underwriting standards or guidelines to determine whether a particular borrower is qualified to receive a

mortgage for a particular property. The underwriting guidelines consist of a variety of metrics, including: the borrower's debt, income, savings, credit history and credit score; whether the property will be owner-occupied; and the loan-to-value ("LTV") ratio, among other things. Loan underwriting guidelines are designed to ensure that: (1) the borrower has the means to repay the loan, (2) the borrower will likely repay the loan, and (3) the loan is secured by sufficient collateral in the event of default.

22. Historically, originators made mortgage loans to borrowers and held the loans on their own books for the duration of the loan. Originators profited as they collected monthly principal and interest payments directly from the borrower. Originators also retained the risk that the borrower would default on the loan.

23. This changed in the 1970s when the Government National Mortgage Association ("Ginnie Mae"), the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae"), and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac") (collectively government sponsored enterprises or "GSEs") began purchasing "conforming" or "prime" loans —so-called because they conformed to guidelines set by the GSEs. The GSEs either sponsored the RMBS issuance (Ginnie Mae) or issued the RMBS themselves after purchasing the conforming loans (Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac). The GSEs securitized the mortgage loans by grouping mortgages into "loan pools," then repackaging the loan pools into RMBS where investors received the cash flow from the mortgage payments. The GSEs guarantee the monthly cash flow to investors on the agency RMBS.

24. More recently, originators, usually working with investment banks, began securitizing "non-conforming loans"—loans originated (in theory) according to private underwriting guidelines adopted by the originators. Non-conforming loans are also known as

“nonprime loans” or “private label” and include “Alt-A” and “subprime” loans. Despite the non-conforming nature of the underlying mortgages, the securitizers of such RMBS were able to obtain triple-A credit ratings by using “credit enhancement” (explained *infra*) when they securitized the non-conforming loans.

25. All of the loans collateralizing the RMBS at issue in this Complaint are non-conforming mortgage loans.

26. The issuance of RMBS collateralized by non-conforming loans peaked in 2006. The securitization process shifted the originators’ focus from ensuring the ability of borrowers to repay their mortgages, to ensuring that the originator could process (and obtain fees from) an ever-larger loan volume for distribution as RMBS. This practice is known as “originate-to-distribute” (“OTD”).

27. Securitization begins with a “sponsor” who purchases loans in bulk from one or more originators. The sponsor transfers title of the loans to an entity called the “depositor.”

28. The depositor transfers the loans to a trust called the “issuing entity.”

29. The issuing entity issues “notes” and/or “certificates,” representing an ownership interest in the cash flow from the mortgage pool underlying the securities (*i.e.*, the principal and interest generated as borrowers make monthly payments on the mortgages in the pool).

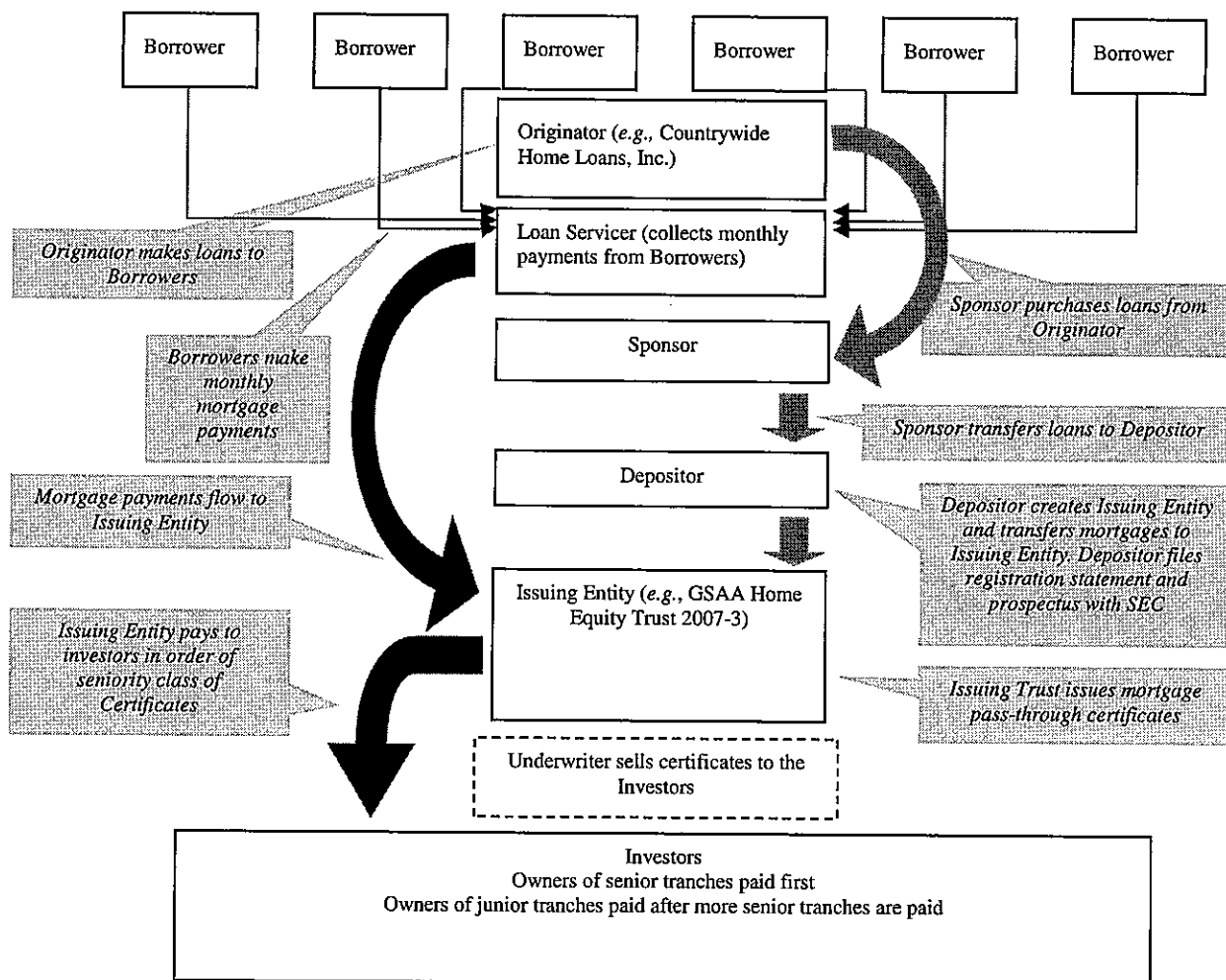
30. The depositor files required documents (such as registration statements and prospectuses) with the SEC so that the certificates can be offered to the public.

31. One or more “underwriters” then sell the notes or certificates to investors.

32. A loan “servicer” collects payments from borrowers on individual mortgages as part of a pool of mortgages, and the issuing entity allocates and distributes the income stream generated from the mortgage loan payments to the RMBS investors.

33. Figure 1 (*infra*) depicts a typical securitization process.

Figure 1
Illustration of the Securitization Process



34. Because securitization, as a practical matter, shifts the risk of default on the mortgage loans from the originator of the loan to the RMBS investor, the originator's adherence to mortgage underwriting guidelines as represented in the offering documents with respect to the underlying mortgage loans is critical to the investors' ability to evaluate the expected performance of the RMBS.

V. RMBS CREDIT RATINGS AND CREDIT ENHANCEMENT

35. RMBS offerings are generally divided into slices or “tranches,” each of which represents a different level of risk. RMBS certificates denote the particular tranches of the security purchased by the investor.

36. The credit rating for an RMBS reflects an assessment of the creditworthiness of that RMBS and indicates the level of risk associated with that RMBS. Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”) and Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) are the credit rating agencies that assigned credit ratings to the RMBS in this case.

37. The credit rating agencies use letter-grade rating systems as shown in Table 2 (*infra*).

Table 2
Credit Ratings

Moody's	S&P	Definitions	Grade Type
Aaa	AAA	Prime (Maximum Safety)	INVESTMENT GRADE
Aa1 Aa2 Aa3	AA+ AA AA-	High Grade, High Quality	
A1 A2 A3	A+ A A-	Upper Medium Grade	
Baa1 Baa2 Baa3	BBB+ BBB BBB-	Medium Grade	
Ba2 Ba3	BB BB-	Non-Investment Grade, or Speculative	
B1 B2 B3	B+ B B-	Highly Speculative, or Substantial Risk	
Caa2 Caa3	CCC+	In Poor Standing	SPECULATIVE GRADE
Ca	CCC CCC-	Extremely Speculative	
C	-	May be in Default	
-	D	Default	

38. Moody’s purportedly awards the coveted “Aaa” rating to structured finance

products that are “of the highest quality, with minimal credit risk.” Moody’s Investors Services, Inc., Moody’s Rating Symbols & Definitions at 6 (August 2003), *available at* http://www.rbcpa.com/Moody’s_ratings_and_definitions.pdf. Likewise, S&P rates a product “AAA” when the “obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.” Standard & Poor’s, Ratings Definitions, *available at* https://www.globalcreditportal.com/ratingsdirect/renderArticle.do?articleId=1019442&SctArtId=147045&from=CM&nsl_code=LIME.

39. In fact, RMBS could not be sold unless they received one of the highest “investment grade” ratings on most tranches from one or more credit rating agencies, because the primary market for RMBS is institutional investors, such as Southwest, which are generally limited to buying only securities with the highest credit ratings. *See, e.g.*, NCUA Credit Risk Management Rule, 12 C.F.R. § 704.6(d)(2) (2010) (prohibiting corporate credit unions from investing in securities rated below AA-); *but see, e.g.*, Alternatives to the Use of Credit Ratings, 77 Fed. Reg. 74,103 (Dec. 13, 2012) (to be codified at 12 C.F.R. pts. 703, 704, 709, and 742).

40. While the pool of mortgages underlying the RMBS may not have been sufficient to warrant a triple-A credit rating, various forms of “credit enhancement” were used to obtain a triple-A credit rating on the higher tranches of RMBS.

41. One form of credit enhancement is “structural subordination.” The tranches, and their risk characteristics relative to each other, are often analogized to a waterfall. Investors in the higher or “senior” tranches are the first to be paid as income is generated when borrowers make their monthly payments. After investors in the most senior tranche are paid, investors in the next subordinate or “junior” tranche are paid, and so on down to the most subordinate or lowest tranche.

42. In the event mortgages in the pool default, the resulting loss is absorbed by the subordinated tranches first.

43. Accordingly, senior tranches are deemed less risky than subordinate tranches and therefore receive higher credit ratings.

44. Another form of credit enhancement is overcollateralization. Overcollateralization is the inclusion of a higher dollar amount of mortgages in the pool than the par value of the security. The spread between the value of the pool and the par value of the security acts as a cushion in the event of a shortfall in expected cash flow.

45. Other forms of credit enhancement include “excess spread,” monoline insurance, obtaining a letter of credit, and “cross-collateralization.” “Excess spread” involves increasing the interest rate paid to the purchasers of the RMBS relative to the interest rate received on the cash flow from the underlying mortgages. Monoline insurance, also known as “wrapping” the deal, involves purchasing insurance to cover losses from any defaults. Finally, some RMBS are “cross-collateralized,” *i.e.*, when a loan group in an RMBS experiences rapid prepayments or disproportionately high realized losses, principal and interest collected from another tranche is applied to pay principal or interest, or both, to the senior certificates in the loan group experiencing rapid prepayment or disproportionate losses.

VI. SOUTHWEST’S PURCHASES

46. Southwest purchased only the highest-rated tranches of RMBS. All were rated triple-A at the time of issuance. These securities have since been downgraded below investment grade just a few years after they were sold (*see infra* Table 3).

Table 3
Credit Ratings for Southwest's RMBS Purchases

CUSIP	ISSUING ENTITY	Original Rating S&P	Original Rating Moody's	First Downgrade Below Investment Grade S&P	First Downgrade Below Investment Grade Moody's	Recent Rating S&P	Recent Rating Moody's
3622EAAX8	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3	AAA 2/27/2007	Aaa 2/23/2007	CCC 2/16/2010	Ca 2/19/2009	CCC 2/16/2010	C 11/11/2010
3622ECAC0	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	AAA 5/3/2007	Aaa 5/11/2007	CCC 8/19/2009	Caa1 2/19/2009	CCC 8/19/2009	Ca 11/11/2010
54251TAD1	Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	AAA 9/5/2006	Aaa 8/30/2006	BB 9/16/2008	Ba3 4/7/2008	CCC 8/4/2009	Ca 4/30/2010

47. At the time of purchase, Southwest was not aware of the untrue statements or omissions of material facts in the Offering Documents of the RMBS. If Southwest had known about the Originators' pervasive disregard of underwriting standards—contrary to the representations in the Offering Documents—they would not have purchased the certificates.

48. The securities' substantial loss of market value has injured Southwest and the NCUA Board.

VII. THE ORIGINATORS SYSTEMATICALLY DISREGARDED THE UNDERWRITING GUIDELINES STATED IN THE OFFERING DOCUMENTS

49. The performance and value of RMBS are largely contingent upon borrowers repaying their mortgages. The loan underwriting guidelines ensure that the borrower has the means to repay the mortgage and that the RMBS is secured by sufficient collateral in the event of reasonably anticipated defaults on the underlying mortgage loans.

50. With respect to RMBS collateralized by loans written by originators who systematically disregarded their stated underwriting standards, the following pattern is present:

- a. a surge in borrower delinquencies and defaults on the mortgages in the pools

(*see infra* Section VII.A and Table 4);

- b. actual gross losses to the underlying mortgage pools within the first 12 months after the offerings exceeded expected gross losses (*see infra* Section VII.B and Figure 2);
- c. a high percentage of the underlying mortgage loans were originated for distribution, as explained below (*see infra* Table 5 and accompanying allegations); and
- d. downgrades of the RMBS by credit rating agencies from high, investment-grade ratings when purchased to much lower ratings, including numerous “junk” ratings (*see infra* Section VII.C and *supra* Table 3).

51. These factors, when considered in light of the other factual allegations in this Complaint, support a finding that the Originators failed to originate the mortgages in accordance with the underwriting standards stated in the Offering Documents.

52. This conclusion is corroborated by reports that the Originators who contributed mortgage loans to the RMBS at issue in this Complaint abandoned the underwriting standards described in the Offering Documents (*see infra* Section VII.D).

53. This conclusion is further corroborated by evidence from Goldman Sachs’s due diligence process that RMBS underwritten by Goldman Sachs were collateralized by a substantial number of loans that were originated contrary to the applicable underwriting standards (*see infra* Section VII.E-F).

A. The Surge in Mortgage Delinquency and Defaults Shortly After the Offerings and the High OTD Practices of the Originators Demonstrate Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Standards

54. Residential mortgages are generally considered delinquent if no payment has been received for more than 30 days after payment is due. Residential mortgages where no payment

has been received for more than 90 days (or three payment cycles) are generally considered to be in default.

55. The surge of delinquencies and defaults following the offerings evidences the systematic flaws in the Originators' underwriting process (*see infra* Table 4).

56. The Offering Documents reported zero or near zero delinquencies and defaults at the time of the Offerings (*see infra* Table 4).

57. The pools of mortgages collateralizing the RMBS experienced delinquency and default rates up to 3.4% within the first three months, up to 12.49% at six months, and up to 26.5% at one year (*see infra* Table 4).

58. As of June 2013, 35.46% of the mortgage collateral across all the RMBS that Southwest purchased was in delinquency, bankruptcy, foreclosure, or real estate owned ("REO"), which means that a bank or lending institution owns the property after a failed sale at a foreclosure auction (*see infra* Table 4).

59. Table 4 (*infra*) reflects the delinquency, foreclosure, bankruptcy, and REO rates on the RMBS as to which claims are asserted in this Complaint. The data presented in the last five columns are from the trustee reports (dates and page references are indicated in the parentheses). The shadowed rows reflect the group of mortgages in the pool underlying the specific tranches purchased by Southwest; however, some trustee reports include only the aggregate data. For RMBS with multiple groups, aggregate information on all the groups is included because the tranches are cross-collateralized.

Table 4
Delinquency and Default Rates for the Southwest's RMBS Purchases

CUSIP	ISSUING ENTITY	RATE AT CUT-OFF DATE FOR OFFERING	1 MO.	3 MOS.	6 MOS.	12 MOS.	RECENT
	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3: Aggregate (P.S. dated Feb., 22, 2007)	0.12% of the mortgage loans were 30 to 59 days delinquent (S-38)	0.81% (Mar., p.10)	2.82% (May, p.10)	5.61% (Aug., p.10)	17.18% (Feb., p.11)	31.49% (June 2013, p.11)
3622EAAAX8	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3: Group 1 *Class 1A1B in Group 1 (S-92)	0.12% of the mortgage loans were 30 to 59 days delinquent (S-38)	0.98% (Mar., p.11)	3.4% (May, p.11)	6.18% (Aug., p.11)	19.52% (Feb., p.12)	33.53% (June 2013, p.12)
	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3: Group 2	0.12% of the mortgage loans were 30 to 59 days delinquent (S-38)	0.26% (Mar., p.11)	0.86% (May, p.11)	3.72% (Aug., p.11)	9.38% (Feb., p.12)	26.27% (June 2013, p.12)
	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5: Aggregate (P.S. dated Apr. 27, 2007)		0.84% (May, p.17)	1.99% (July, p.17)	6.43% (Oct, p.17)	15.75% Apr., p.17)	31.57% (June 2013, p.17)
	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5: Group 1	No more than 0.25% of the mortgage loans were 30-59 days delinquent. (S-44)	0.78% (May, p.18)	1.52% (July, p.18)	4.89% (July, p.18)	10.68% Apr., p.18)	24.59% (June 2013, p.18)
3622ECAC0	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5: Group 2 *Class 2A2A in Group 2 (S-3)	No more than 0.18% of the mortgage loans were 30-59 days delinquent. (S-44)	0.87% (May, p.18)	2.14% (July, p.18)	6.92% (July, p.18)	17.37% Apr., p.18)	34.49% (June 2013, p.18)
	Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7: Aggregate (P.S. dated Aug. 24, 2006)	Zero. (S-69)	0.04% (Sept, p.11)	1.08% (Nov, p.11)	12.01% (Feb, p.11)	25.04% (Aug, p.11)	36.61% (June 2013, p.12)
	Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7: Group 1	Zero. (S-69)	0.00% (Sept, p.12)	3.03% (Nov, p.12)	10.77% (Feb, p.12)	21.28% (Aug, p.12)	32.77% (June 2013, p.17)
54251TAD1	Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7: Group 2 *Class II-A3 in Group 2	Zero. (S-69)	0.06% (Sept, p.13)	0.33% (Nov, p.13)	12.49% (Feb, p.13)	26.50% (Aug, p.13)	38.35% (June 2013, p.23)

60. This early spike in delinquencies and defaults, which occurred almost immediately after these RMBS were purchased by Southwest, was later discovered to be indicative of the Originators' systematic disregard of their stated underwriting guidelines.

61. The phenomenon of borrower default shortly after origination of the loans is

known as “Early Payment Default.” Early Payment Default evidences borrower misrepresentations and other misinformation in the origination process, resulting from the systematic failure of the Originators to apply the underwriting guidelines described in the Offering Documents.

62. In January 2011, the Financial Stability Oversight Council (“FSOC”), chaired by United States Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, issued a report analyzing the effects of risk retention requirements in mortgage lending on the broader economy. *See* FIN. STABILITY OVERSIGHT COUNCIL, MACROECONOMIC EFFECTS OF RISK RETENTION REQUIREMENTS (2011) (“FSOC Risk Retention Report”). The FSOC Risk Retention Report focused on stabilizing the mortgage lending industry through larger risk retention requirements in the industry that can “incent better lending decisions” and “help to mitigate some of the pro-cyclical effects securitization may have on the economy.” *Id.* at 2.

63. The FSOC Risk Retention Report observed that the securitization process often incentivizes poor underwriting by shifting the risk of default from the originators to the investors, while obscuring critical information concerning the actual nature of the risk. The FSOC Risk Retention Report stated:

The securitization process involves multiple parties with varying incentives and information, thereby breaking down the traditional direct relationship between borrower and lender. The party setting underwriting standards and making lending decisions (the originator) and the party making structuring decisions (the securitizer) are often exposed to minimal or no credit risk. By contrast, the party that is most exposed to credit risk (the investor) often has less influence over underwriting standards and may have less information about the borrower. As a result, originators and securitizers that do not retain risk can, at least in the short run, maximize their own returns by lowering underwriting standards in ways that investors may have difficulty detecting. The originate-to-distribute model, as it was conducted, exacerbated this weakness by compensating originators and securitizers based on volume, rather than on quality.

Id. at 3.

64. Indeed, originators that wrote a high percentage of their loans for distribution were more likely to disregard underwriting standards, resulting in poorly performing mortgages, in contrast to originators that originated and then held most of their loans.

65. High OTD originators profited from mortgage origination fees without bearing the risks of borrower default or insufficient collateral in the event of default. Divorced from these risks, high OTD originators were incentivized to push loan quantity over quality.

66. Table 5 (*infra*) shows the percentage of loans originated for distribution relative to all the loans made by the Originators for the years 2005, 2006 and 2007, for those Originators in this Complaint with high OTD percentages. The data was obtained from the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act database.

Table 5
Originator "Originate-to-Distribute" Percentages

Originator Name	OTD % 2005	OTD% 2006	OTD % 2007
Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.	98.5	96.5	98.4
First National Bank of Nevada	88	79.9	89.4
GreenPoint Mortgage Funding Inc.	89	87.1	95.6
IndyMac Bank, F.S.B.	81.1	87.7	82.8
Long Beach Mortgage Company		80.2	

B. The Surge in Actual Versus Expected Cumulative Gross Losses is Evidence of the Originators' Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Standards

67. The actual defaults in the mortgage pools underlying the RMBS Southwest purchased exceeded expected defaults so quickly and by so wide a margin that a significant portion of the mortgages could not have been underwritten as represented in the Offering Documents.

68. Every month, the RMBS trustee reports the number and outstanding balance of all loans in the mortgage pools that have defaulted. The running total of this cumulative default balance is referred to as the “gross loss.”

69. When defaulted loans are foreclosed upon, the proceeds from the foreclosures are distributed to the investors and any shortfall on the defaulted loan balances is realized as a loss. The running total of this cumulative realized loss (defaulted loan balance minus recovery in foreclosure) is referred to as the “net loss.”

70. “Actual loss” is the economic loss the mortgage pool experiences *in fact*. So “actual gross loss” is the *actual* cumulative sum of the balance of the loans in default for a particular security. Likewise, “actual net loss” is the *actual* cumulative realized loss on defaulted loans after foreclosure.

71. At the time a security is rated, the rating agency calculates an amount of “expected loss” using a model based on historical performance of similar securities. So “expected gross loss” is the *expected* cumulative sum of the balance of the loans in default for a particular security. Likewise, “expected net loss” is the *expected* cumulative realized loss on defaulted loans after foreclosure. The amount of expected net loss drives the credit ratings assigned to the various tranches of RMBS.

72. Each credit rating has a “rating factor,” which can be expressed in multiples of the amount of credit enhancement over expected net loss (in equation form: $CE/ENL = RF$). Thus, the rating factor expresses how many times the expected net loss is covered by credit enhancement. A “triple-A” rated security would have a rating factor of “5,” so would require credit enhancement of five times the amount of the expected net loss. A “double-A rating” would have a rating factor of “4,” and thus would require credit enhancement equaling four times

the expected net loss. A “single-A” rating would have a rating factor of “3” and would require credit enhancement of three times expected net loss. A “Baa” rating would require credit enhancement of 2—1.5 times expected net loss, and a “Ba” rating or lower requires some amount of credit enhancement less than 1.5 times expected net loss.

73. Accordingly, by working backwards from this equation, one can infer expected net loss in an already-issued offering. For example, assume there is a \$100 million offering backed by \$100 million of assets, with a triple-A rated senior tranche with a principal balance of \$75 million. This means the non-senior tranches, in aggregate, have a principal balance of \$25 million. The \$25 million amount of the non-senior tranches in this hypothetical offering serves as the credit enhancement for the senior tranche. Therefore, on our hypothetical \$100 million offering, the expected net loss would be \$5 million, which is the amount of the credit enhancement on the triple-A rated senior tranche—\$25 million—divided by the rating factor for triple-A rated securities—5. The following equation illustrates: $\$25,000,000/5 = \$5,000,000$.

74. Expected gross loss can be then mathematically derived by applying an “expected recovery rate” to the expected net loss ($EGL = ENL/(1 - ERR)$).

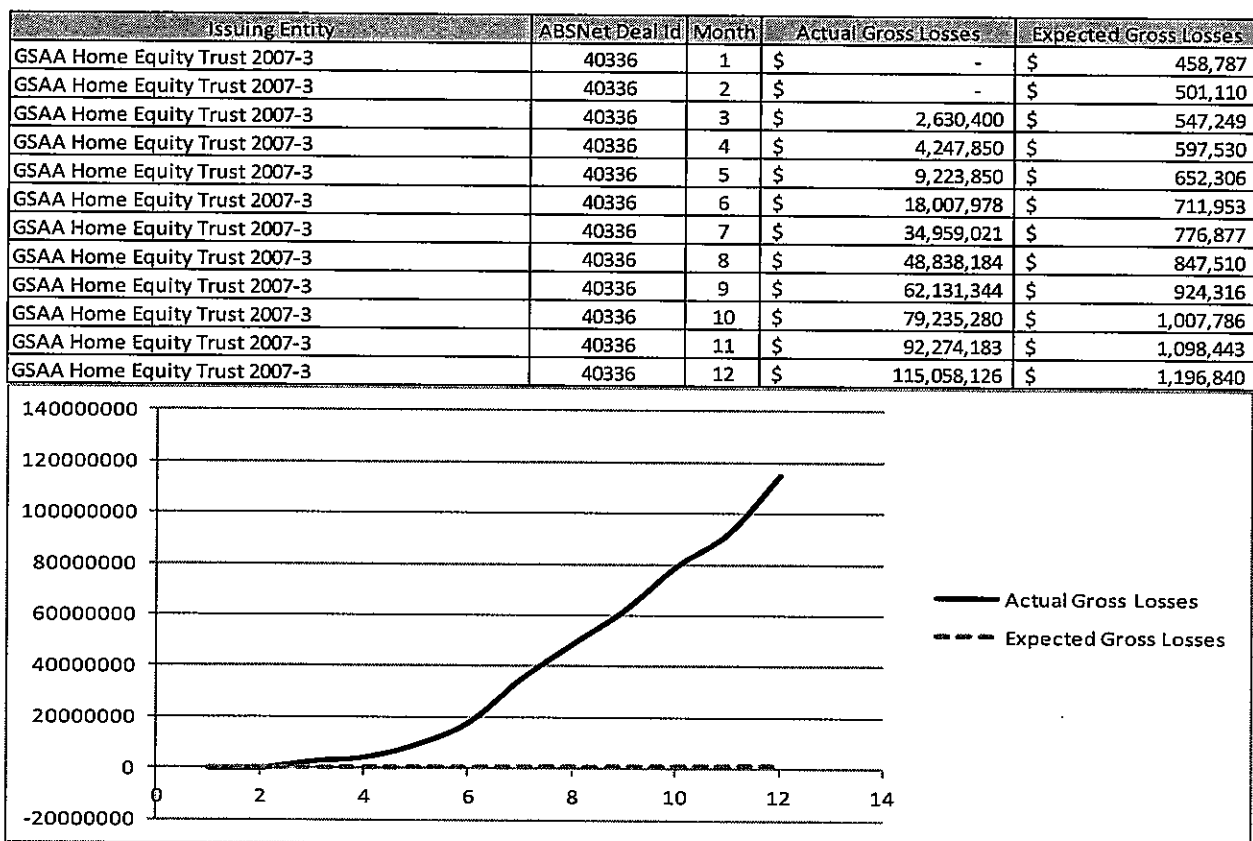
75. A comparison of actual gross losses to expected gross losses for a particular security can be made graphically by plotting the actual versus expected loss data on a line graph. Figure 2 (*infra*) is a series of such line graphs. Figure 2 illustrates the actual gross loss (again, actual defaults) the pools backing the RMBS purchased by Southwest experienced in the first twelve months after issuance compared to the expected gross loss (again, expected defaults) for those pools during the same time period.

76. The actual gross loss data in Figure 2 (*infra*) was obtained from ABSNet, a resource for asset-backed securities related data. The expected gross losses were calculated by

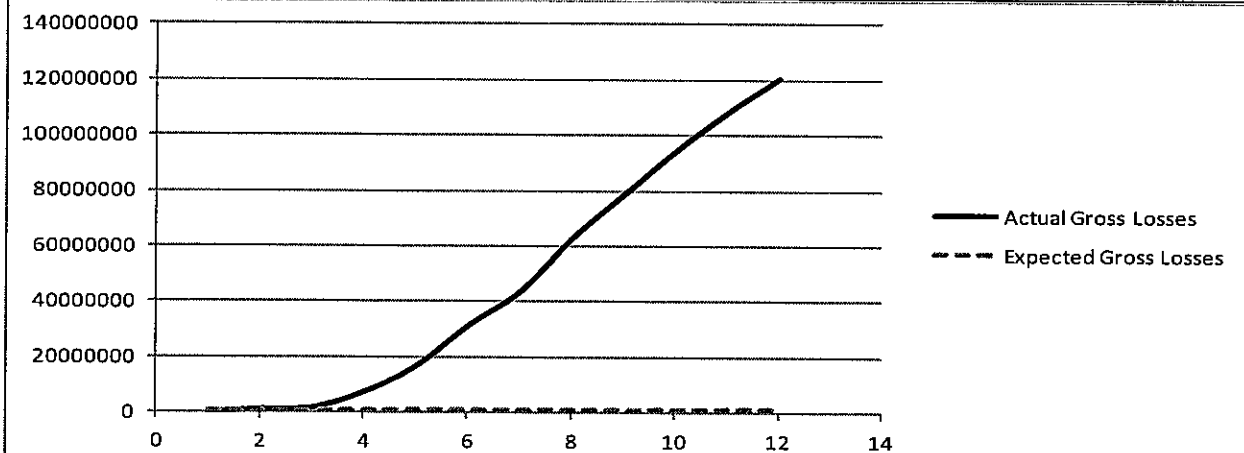
“grossing up” the rating-implied expected net losses using an expected recovery rate of 85%.

77. As the graphs show, the actual gross losses (the solid lines) far exceeded the expected gross losses (the dotted lines) for the period analyzed. That means that the actual balance of defaulted loans in the first twelve months following issuance far exceeded the expected balance of defaulted loans based on historical performance.

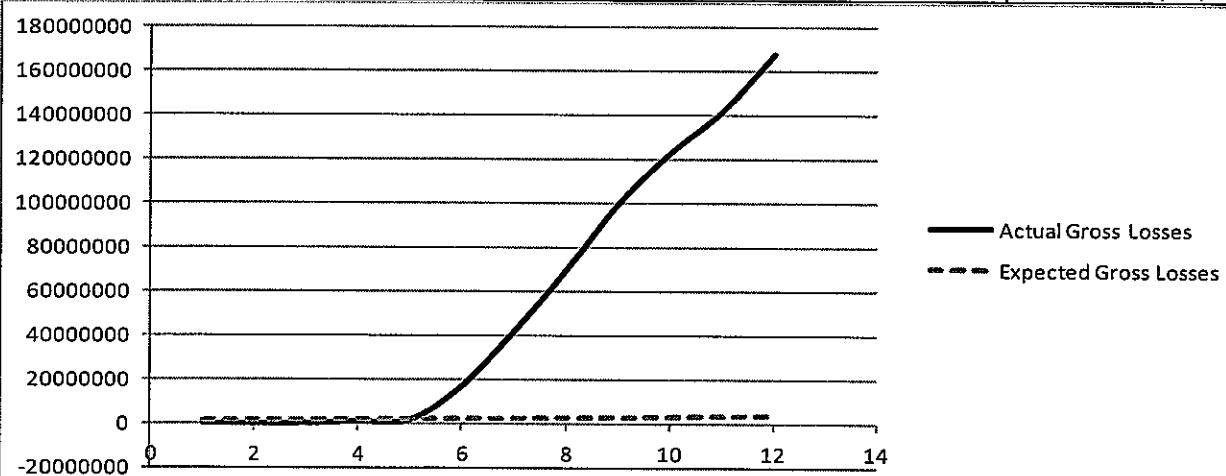
Figure 2
Illustration of Expected Gross Losses v. Actual Gross Losses for Southwest's RMBS Purchases



Issuing Entity	ABSNet Deal Id	Month	Actual Gross Losses	Expected Gross Losses
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	1	\$ -	\$ 510,766
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	2	\$ 998,104	\$ 557,884
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	3	\$ 1,634,503	\$ 609,250
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	4	\$ 7,249,636	\$ 665,228
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	5	\$ 16,608,228	\$ 726,209
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	6	\$ 31,133,679	\$ 792,614
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	7	\$ 43,472,163	\$ 864,893
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	8	\$ 62,567,545	\$ 943,529
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	9	\$ 78,403,423	\$ 1,029,037
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	10	\$ 94,096,279	\$ 1,121,963
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	11	\$ 108,106,237	\$ 1,222,891
GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	41338	12	\$ 120,274,544	\$ 1,332,436



Issuing Entity	ABSNet Deal Id	Month	Actual Gross Losses	Expected Gross Losses
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	1	\$ -	\$ 1,407,370
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	2	\$ -	\$ 1,537,200
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	3	\$ 147,861	\$ 1,678,735
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	4	\$ 973,024	\$ 1,832,976
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	5	\$ 1,880,689	\$ 2,001,005
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	6	\$ 17,374,545	\$ 2,183,977
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	7	\$ 42,526,980	\$ 2,383,137
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	8	\$ 70,355,350	\$ 2,599,812
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	9	\$ 100,282,963	\$ 2,835,420
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	10	\$ 123,289,367	\$ 3,091,471
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	11	\$ 142,413,282	\$ 3,369,569
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	39171	12	\$ 168,064,357	\$ 3,671,410



78. As clearly shown in Figure 2 (*supra*), actual gross losses spiked almost immediately after issuance of the RMBS. Borrowers defaulted on the underlying mortgages soon after loan origination, rapidly eliminating the RMBS's credit enhancement. For example, in the Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 offering, actual gross losses at month 12 exceeded \$168 million, or more than 45 times the expected gross losses of approximately \$ 3.6 million. (*See supra* Figure 2).

79. This immediate increase in actual losses—at a rate far greater than expected losses—is strong evidence that the Originators systematically disregarded the underwriting standards in the Offering Documents.

80. Because credit enhancement is designed to ensure triple-A performance of triple-A rated RMBS, the evidence that credit enhancement has failed (*i.e.*, actual losses swiftly surged past expected losses shortly after the offering) substantiates that a critical number of mortgages in the pool were not written in accordance with the underwriting guidelines stated in the Offering Documents.

C. The Collapse of the Certificates' Credit Ratings is Evidence of Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Guidelines

81. All of the RMBS certificates Southwest purchased were rated triple-A at issuance.

82. Moody's and S&P have since downgraded the RMBS certificates Southwest purchased to well below investment grade (*see supra* Table 3).

83. Triple-A rated product “should be able to withstand an extreme level of stress and still meet its financial obligations. A historical example of such a scenario is the Great Depression in the U.S.” *Understanding Standard & Poor's Rating Definitions*, June 3, 2009, at 14.

84. A rating downgrade is material. The total collapse in the credit ratings of the

RMBS certificates Southwest purchased, typically from triple-A to non-investment speculative grade, is evidence of the Originators' systematic disregard of underwriting guidelines, amplifying that these RMBS were impaired from the outset.

D. Revelations Subsequent to the Offerings Show That the Originators Systematically Disregarded Underwriting Standards

85. Public disclosures subsequent to the issuance of the RMBS reinforce the allegation that the Originators systematically abandoned their stated underwriting guidelines.

1. The Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Standards Was Pervasive as Revealed After the Collapse

86. Mortgage originators experienced unprecedented success during the mortgage boom. Yet, their success was illusory. As the loans they originated began to significantly underperform, the demand for their products subsided. It became evident that originators had systematically disregarded their underwriting standards.

87. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (the "OCC"), an office within the Treasury Department, published a report in November 2008 listing the "Worst Ten" metropolitan areas with the highest rates of foreclosures and the "Worst Ten" originators with the largest numbers of foreclosures in those areas ("2008 'Worst Ten in the Worst Ten' Report"). In this report the OCC emphasized the importance of adherence to underwriting standards in mortgage loan origination:

The quality of the underwriting process—that is, determining through analysis of the borrower and market conditions that a borrower is highly likely to be able to repay the loan as promised—is a major determinant of subsequent loan performance. The quality of underwriting varies across lenders, a factor that is evident through comparisons of rates of delinquency, foreclosure, or other loan performance measures across loan originators.

88. Government reports and investigations and newspaper reports have uncovered the extent of pervasive abandonment of underwriting standards. The Permanent Subcommittee on

Investigations in the United States Senate (“PSI”) recently released its report detailing the causes of the financial crisis. Using Washington Mutual Bank as a case study, the PSI concluded through its investigation:

Washington Mutual was far from the only lender that sold poor quality mortgages and mortgage backed securities that undermined U.S. financial markets. The Subcommittee investigation indicates that Washington Mutual was emblematic of a host of financial institutions that knowingly originated, sold, and securitized billions of dollars in high risk, poor quality home loans. These lenders were not the victims of the financial crisis; the high risk loans they issued became the fuel that ignited the financial crisis.

STAFF OF S. PERMANENT SUBCOMM. ON INVESTIGATIONS, 112TH CONG., WALL STREET AND THE FINANCIAL CRISIS: ANATOMY OF A FINANCIAL COLLAPSE 50 (Subcomm. Print 2011).

89. Indeed, the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission (“FCIC”) issued its final report in January 2011 that detailed, among other things, the collapse of mortgage underwriting standards and subsequent collapse of the mortgage market and wider economy. *See* FIN. CRISIS INQUIRY COMM’N, FINAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE CAUSES OF THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS IN THE UNITED STATES (2011) (“FCIC Report”).

90. The FCIC Report concluded that there was a “systemic breakdown in accountability and ethics.” “Unfortunately—as has been the case in past speculative booms and busts—we witnessed an erosion of standards of responsibility and ethics that exacerbated the financial crisis.” *Id.* at xxii. The FCIC found:

[I]t was the collapse of the housing bubble—fueled by low interest rates, easy and available credit, scant regulation, and toxic mortgages—that was the spark that ignited a string of events, which led to a full-blown crises in the fall of 2008. Trillions of dollars in risky mortgages had become embedded throughout the financial system, as mortgage-related securities were packaged, repackaged, and sold to investors around the world.

Id. at xvi.

91. During the housing boom, mortgage lenders focused on quantity rather than

quality, originating loans for borrowers who had no realistic capacity to repay the loan. The FCIC Report found “that the percentage of borrowers who defaulted on their mortgages within just a matter of months after taking a loan nearly doubled from the summer of 2006 to late 2007.” *Id.* at xxii. Early Payment Default is a significant indicator of pervasive disregard for underwriting standards. The FCIC Report noted that mortgage fraud “flourished in an environment of collapsing lending standards....” *Id.*

92. In this lax lending environment, mortgage lenders went unchecked, originating mortgages for borrowers in spite of underwriting standards:

Lenders made loans that they knew borrowers could not afford and that could cause massive losses to investors in mortgage securities. As early as September 2004, Countrywide executives recognized that many of the loans they were originating could result in “catastrophic consequences.” Less than a year later, they noted that certain high-risk loans they were making could result not only in foreclosures but also in “financial and reputational catastrophe” for the firm. But they did not stop.

Id.

93. Lenders and borrowers took advantage of this climate, with borrowers willing to take on loans and lenders anxious to get those borrowers into the loans, ignoring even loosened underwriting standards. The FCIC Report observed: “Many mortgage lenders set the bar so low that lenders simply took eager borrowers’ qualifications on faith, often with a willful disregard for a borrower’s ability to pay.” *Id.* at xxiii.

94. In an interview with the FCIC, Alphonso Jackson, the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Affairs (“HUD”) from 2004 to 2008, related that HUD had heard about mortgage lenders “running wild, taking applications over the Internet, not verifying people’s income or their ability to have a job.” *Id.* at 12-13 (internal quotation marks omitted).

95. Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, Benjamin Bernanke, spoke to the decline

of underwriting standards in his speech before the World Affairs Council of Greater Richmond on April 10, 2008:

First, at the point of origination, underwriting standards became increasingly compromised. The best-known and most serious case is that of subprime mortgages, mortgages extended to borrowers with weaker credit histories. To a degree that increased over time, these mortgages were often poorly documented and extended with insufficient attention to the borrower's ability to repay. In retrospect, the breakdown in underwriting can be linked to the incentives that the originate-to-distribute model, as implemented in this case, created for the originators. Notably, the incentive structures often tied originator revenue to loan volume, rather than to the quality of the loans being passed up the chain. Investors normally have the right to put loans that default quickly back to the originator, which should tend to apply some discipline to the underwriting process. However, in the recent episode, some originators had little capital at stake, reducing their exposure to the risk that the loans would perform poorly.

Benjamin Bernanke, Chairman, Federal Reserve Board, Speech to the World Affairs Council of Greater Richmond, *Addressing Weaknesses in the Global Financial Markets: The Report of the President's Working Group on Financial Markets*, Apr. 10, 2008.

96. Investment banks securitized loans that were not originated in accordance with underwriting guidelines and failed to disclose this fact in RMBS offering documents. As the FCIC Report noted:

The Commission concludes that firms securitizing mortgages failed to perform adequate due diligence on the mortgages they purchased and at times knowingly waived compliance with underwriting standards. Potential investors were not fully informed or were misled about the poor quality of the mortgages contained in some mortgage-related securities. These problems appear to have been significant.

FCIC Report at 187.

97. Because investors had limited or no access to information concerning the actual quality of loans underlying the RMBS, the OTD model created a situation where the origination of low quality mortgages through poor underwriting thrived. The FSOC found:

In the originate-to-distribute model, originators receive significant compensation upfront without retaining a material ongoing economic interest in the performance of the loan. This reduces the economic incentive of originators and securitizers to evaluate the credit quality of the underlying loans carefully. Some research indicates that securitization was associated with lower quality loans in the financial crisis. For instance, one study found that subprime borrowers with credit scores just above a threshold commonly used by securitizers to determine which loans to purchase defaulted at significantly higher rates than those with credit scores below the threshold. By lower underwriting standards, securitization may have increased the amount of credit extended, resulting in riskier and unsustainable loans that otherwise may not have been originated.

FSOC Risk Retention Report at 11 (footnote omitted).

98. The FSOC reported that as the OTD model became more pervasive in the mortgage industry, underwriting practices weakened across the industry. The FSOC Risk Retention Report found “[t]his deterioration was particularly prevalent with respect to the verification of the borrower’s income, assets, and employment for residential real estate loans... .” *Id.*

99. In sum, the disregard of underwriting standards was pervasive across originators. The failure to adhere to underwriting standards directly contributed to the sharp decline in the quality of mortgages that became part of mortgage pools collateralizing RMBS. The lack of adherence to underwriting standards for the loans underlying RMBS was not disclosed to investors in the offering materials. The nature of the securitization process, with the investor several steps removed from the origination of the mortgages underlying the RMBS, made it difficult for investors to ascertain how the RMBS would perform.

100. As discussed below, facts have recently come to light that show many of the Originators who contributed to the loan pools underlying the RMBS at issue in this Complaint engaged in these underwriting practices.

2. Countrywide's Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Standards

101. Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. ("Countrywide") was one of the largest originators of residential mortgages in the United States during the time period at issue in this Complaint. Countrywide originated or contributed a material portion of the loans in the mortgage pool underlying the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 and GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 offerings. *See infra* Table 6.

102. In October 2009, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform launched an investigation into the entire subprime mortgage industry, including Countrywide, focusing on "whether mortgage companies employed deceptive and predatory lending practices, or improper tactics to thwart regulation, and the impact of those activities on the current crisis." Press Release, Comm. on Oversight & Government Reform, Statement of Chairman Towns on Committee Investigation Into Mortgage Crisis at 1 (Oct. 23, 2009) (internal quotation marks omitted).

103. On June 4, 2009, the SEC sued Angelo Mozilo and other Countrywide executives, alleging securities fraud. Specifically, the SEC alleged that Mozilo and the others misled investors about the credit risks that Countrywide created with its mortgage origination business, telling investors that Countrywide was primarily involved in prime mortgage lending, when it was actually heavily involved in risky sub-prime loans with expanded underwriting guidelines. *See* Compl. for Violations of the Federal Securities Laws, *SEC v. Mozilo*, No. CV 09-3994-JFW (C.D. Cal. filed June 4, 2009). Mozilo and the other executives settled the charges with the SEC for \$73 million on October 15, 2010. *See* Walter Hamilton & E. Scott Reckard, *Angelo Mozilo, Other Former Countrywide Execs Settle Fraud Charges*, L.A. Times, Oct. 16, 2010, at A1.

104. Internal Countrywide e-mails the SEC released in connection with the summary

judgment motions filed in its lawsuit show the extent to which Countrywide systematically deviated from its underwriting guidelines. For instance, in an April 13, 2006 e-mail from Mozilo to other top Countrywide executives, Mozilo stated that Countrywide was originating home mortgage loans with “serious disregard for process, compliance with guidelines and irresponsible behavior relative to meeting timelines.” E-mail from Angelo Mozilo to Eric Sieracki and other Countrywide Executives (Apr. 13, 2006 7:42 PM PDT). Mozilo also wrote that he had “personally observed a serious lack of compliance within our origination system as it relates to documentation and generally a deterioration in the quality of loans originated versus the pricing of those loan[s].” *Id.* (internal quotation marks omitted).

105. Indeed, in September 2004, Mozilo had voiced his concern over the “clear deterioration in the credit quality of loans being originated,” observing that “the trend is getting worse” because of competition in the non-conforming loans market. With this in mind, Mozilo argued that Countrywide should “seriously consider securitizing and selling ([Net Interest Margin Securities]) a substantial portion of [Countrywide’s] current and future sub prime [sic] residuals.” E-mail from Angelo Mozilo to Stan Kurland & Keith McLaughlin, Managing Directors, Countrywide (Sept. 1, 2004 8:17 PM PDT).

106. To protect themselves against poorly underwritten loans, parties that purchase loans from an originator frequently require the originator to repurchase any loans that suffer Early Payment Default.

107. In the first quarter of 2006, HSBC Holdings plc (“HSBC”), a purchaser of Countrywide’s 80/20 subprime loans, began to force Countrywide to repurchase certain loans that HSBC contended were defective under the parties’ contract. In an e-mail sent on April 17, 2006, Mozilo asked, “[w]here were the breakdowns in our system that caused the HSBC debacle

including the creation of the contract all the way through the massive disregard for guidelines set forth by both the contract and corporate.” E-mail from Angelo Mozilo to Dave Sambol, former Executive Managing Director and Chief of Mortgage Banking and Capital Markets at Countrywide Financial (Apr. 17, 2006 5:55 PM PST). Mozilo continued:

In all my years in the business I have never seen a more toxic product. [sic] It’s not only subordinated to the first, but the first is subprime. In addition, the [FICO]s are below 600, below 500 and some below 400 With real estate values coming down . . . the product will become increasingly worse. There has [sic] to be major changes in this program, including substantial increases in the minimum [FICO].

Id.

108. Countrywide sold a product called the “Pay Option ARM.” This loan was a 30-year adjustable rate mortgage that allowed the borrower to choose between various monthly payment options, including a set minimum payment. In a June 1, 2006 e-mail, Mozilo noted that most of Countrywide’s Pay Option ARMs were based on stated income and admitted that “[t]here is also some evidence that the information that the borrower is providing us relative to their income does not match up with IRS records.” E-mail from Angelo Mozilo to Carlos Garcia, former CFO of Countrywide Financial and Jim Furash, former President of Countrywide Bank (June 1, 2006 10:38 PM PST).

109. An internal quality control report e-mailed on June 2, 2006, showed that for stated income loans, 50.3% of loans indicated a variance of 10% or more from the stated income in the loan application. *See* E-mail from Clifford Rossi, Chief Risk Officer, Countrywide, to Jim Furash, Executive, CEO, Countrywide Bank, N.A., among others (June 2, 2006 12:28 PM PDT).

110. Countrywide, apparently, was “flying blind” on how one of its popular loan products, the Pay Option ARM loan, would perform, and admittedly, had “no way, with any reasonable certainty, to assess the real risk of holding these loans on [its] balance sheet.” E-mail

from Angelo Mozilo to Dave Sambol, Managing Director Countrywide (Sept. 26, 2006 10:15 AM PDT). Yet such loans were securitized and passed on to unsuspecting investors such as Southwest.

111. With growing concern over the performance of Pay Option ARM loans in the waning months of 2007, Mozilo advised that he “d[id]n’t want any more Pay Options originated for the Bank.” E-mail from Angelo Mozilo Countrywide to Carlos Garcia, former Managing Director, Countrywide (Nov. 3, 2007 5:33 PM PST). In other words, if Countrywide was to continue to originate Pay Option ARM loans, it was not to hold onto the loans. Mozilo’s concerns about Pay Option ARM loans were rooted in “[Countrywide’s] inability to underwrite [Pay Option ARM loans] combined with the fact that these loans [we]re inherently unsound unless they are full doc, no more than 75% LTV and no piggys.” *Id.*

112. In a March 27, 2006 e-mail, Mozilo reaffirmed the need to “oversee all of the corrective processes that will be put into effect to permanently avoid the errors of both judgement [sic] and protocol that have led to the issues that we face today” and that “the people responsible for the origination process understand the necessity for adhering to the guidelines for 100% LTV sub-prime product. This is the most dangerous product in existence and there can be nothing more toxic and therefore requires that no deviation from guidelines be permitted irrespective of the circumstances.” E-mail from Angelo Mozilo to the former Countrywide Managing Directors (Mar. 27, 2006 8:53 PM PST).

113. Yet Countrywide routinely found exceptions to its underwriting guidelines without sufficient compensating factors. In an April 14, 2005 e-mail, Frank Aguilera, a Countrywide managing director, explained that the “spirit” of Countrywide’s exception policy was not being followed. He noted a “significant concentration of similar exceptions” that

“denote[d] a divisional or branch exception policy that is out side [sic] the spirit of the policy.”

E-mail from Frank Aguilera, Managing Director, Countrywide, to John McMurray, Managing Director, Countrywide (Apr. 14, 2005 12:14 PM PDT). Aguilera continued: “The continued concentration in these same categories indicates either a) inadequate controls in place to manage [sic] rogue production units or b) general disregard for corporate program policies and guidelines.” *Id.* Aguilera observed that pervasive use of the exceptions policy was an industry-wide practice:

It appears that [Countrywide Home Loans]’ loan exception policy is more loosely interpreted at [Specialty Lending Group] than at the other divisions. I understand that [Correspondent Lending Division] has decided to proceed with a similar strategy to appease their complaint customers. . . . [Specialty Lending Group] has clearly made a market in this unauthorized product by employing a strategy that Blackwell has suggested is prevalent in the industry. . . .

Id.

114. Internal reports months after an initial push to rein in the excessive use of exceptions with a “zero tolerance” policy showed the use of exceptions remained excessive.

E-mail from Frank Aguilera, Managing Director, Countrywide, to Brian Kuelbs, Managing Director, Countrywide, among others (June 12, 2006 10:13 AM PDT).

115. In February 2007, nearly a year after pressing for a reduction in the overuse of exceptions and as Countrywide claimed to be tightening lending standards, Countrywide executives found that exceptions continued to be used at an unacceptably high rate. Frank Aguilera stated that any “[g]uideline tightening should be considered purely optics with little change in overall execution unless these exceptions can be contained.” E-mail from Frank Aguilera, Managing Director, Countrywide, to Mark Elbuam, Managing Director, Countrywide, among others (Feb. 21, 2007 4:58 PM PST).

116. John McMurray, a former Countrywide managing director, expressed his opinion

in a September 2007 e-mail that “the exception process has never worked properly.” E-mail from John McMurray, Managing Director, to Jess Lederman, Managing Director, Countrywide (Sept. 7, 2007 10:12 AM PDT).

117. Countrywide conceded that the poor performance of loans it originated was, in many cases, due to poor underwriting. In April 2007, Countrywide noticed that its high CLTV ratio stated income loans were performing worse than those of its competitors. After reviewing many of the loans that went bad, a Countrywide executive stated that “in most cases [poor performance was] due to poor underwriting related to reserves and verification of assets to support reasonable income.” E-mail from Russ Smith, Countrywide to Andrew Gissinger, Managing Director, Countrywide (Apr. 11, 2007 7:58 AM PDT).

3. First National Bank of Nevada’s Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Standards

118. First National Bank of Nevada (“FNB Nevada”) was a large subprime mortgage lender. It originated or contributed a material portion of the loans in the mortgage pool underlying the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 offering. *See infra* Table 6.

119. First National Bank Arizona (“FNB Arizona”), FNB Nevada, and First Heritage Bank were controlled by First National Bank Holding Company (“FNB Holding”), collectively (“FNB Group”). All were under common management. *See* Department of the Treasury, Office of the Inspector General, *Audit Report: Safety and Soundness: Material Loss Review of First National Bank of Nevada and First Heritage Bank, National Association* at 4 (Feb. 27, 2009) (“FNB Nevada OIG Report”), available at <http://www.treasury.gov/about/organizational-structure/ig/Documents/oig09033.pdf>; David Enrich and Damian Paletta, *Failed Lender Played Regulatory Angles*, Wall St. J. (Oct. 3, 2008), available at <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122298993937000343.html>.

120. FNB Arizona ran the FNB Group’s residential mortgage lending operation. *See* FNB Nevada OIG Report at 4.

121. The amount of mortgage loans originated by FNB Arizona grew from \$1.5 billion in 2001 to \$7 billion in 2006. *See* Enrich and Paletta, *Failed Lender Played Regulatory Angles*. FNB Arizona was an OTD lender; in 2006, \$6.9 billion of its loans were packaged into RMBS. *See* FNB Nevada OIG Report at 5.

122. A series of investigations by the OCC detail how FNB Arizona achieved its rapid growth by pervasively disregarding its underwriting guidelines.

123. In 2004, the OCC inspected FNB Arizona and determined that it needed better “[p]rocedures to reduce underwriting exceptions” and better “[p]olicies and internal controls over the use of appraisers.” FNB Nevada OIG Report at 44.

124. A 2005 OCC investigation found that “[c]redit underwriting and administration need improvement. The quickness of loan production has had priority over quality. Issues include loan appraisal violations (repeat issue) and inadequate practices over standby letters of credit.” It recommended FNB Arizona “develop and implement procedures and accountability that are effective in reducing the high level of underwriting exceptions (repeat issue)” and reduce the number of employee and vendor errors in loan origination. It also cited FNB Arizona for two regulatory violations—failing to appraise properties prior to closing and failing to use independent appraisers. *Id.* at 44-46.

125. A 2006 investigation found that FNB Arizona still had not implemented “effective procedures and processes to reduce the level and number of underwriting exceptions.” The OCC also noted that appraisers’ reports were often missing or incomplete. *Id.* at 47

126. In 2007, FNB Arizona’s liquidity problems prompted the OCC to initiate an

informal enforcement action. It cited several matters requiring the direct attention of the bank's board, including internal loan review that lacked independence due to executive management influence, understaffed internal loan review, staffing levels and expertise that were not commensurate with the complexities of the bank's operations, and (yet again) the need to reduce underwriting exceptions. *See id.* at 48-50.

127. FNB Arizona's underwriting practices became so poor that in 2007 it was unable to sell \$683 million of residential mortgages to securitizers. It was also forced to repurchase a number of its poorly underwritten mortgages. This contributed to a liquidity crisis for the entire FNB Group. *See id.* at 2, 6.

128. On June 30, 2008 FNB Arizona merged into FNB Nevada. Shortly thereafter, the OCC closed FNB Nevada and appointed the FDIC as its receiver. Press Release, *OCC Closes First National Bank of Nevada and Appoints FDIC Receiver* (July 25, 2008), available at <http://www.occ.gov/news-issuances/news-releases/2008/nr-occ-2008-87.html>.

129. In its capacity as receiver for FNB Nevada, the FDIC sued the former directors and officers of the FNB Group. Compl., *FDIC v. Dorris*, No. 11-1652 (D. Ariz. filed Aug. 23, 2011). The FDIC alleged the same pervasive disregard of underwriting guidelines described above. *See id.* ¶¶ 38-42.

130. That complaint detailed how the bank's compensation structure was tied to the volume of loans originated, creating an incentive for bank employees to disregard the underwriting guidelines. *See id.* ¶ 30. FNB Arizona also used many mortgage brokers who had the same volume-based incentive to disregard underwriting guidelines and to inflate appraisals. *See id.* ¶¶ 33-34.

131. The suit settled less than two months after it was filed. Final Judgment Order,

FDIC v. Dorris, Doc. 15., No 11-1652 (D. Ariz. Oct. 13, 2011).

132. Evidence uncovered in *Plumbers' Union Local No. 12 Pension Fund v. Nomura Asset Acceptance Corp.*, No. 08-10446 (D. Mass. filed Oct. 1, 2012) further highlights FNB Arizona's disregard of its underwriting guidelines. There, the Court allowed the Plumber's Union to engage in limited discovery, which uncovered four pertinent pieces of evidence:

- “[T]hree ‘representative’ no-document loans that [FNB Nevada] originated. In each of these ‘No Doc’ loans, the borrower’s income was either unknown or unverified, or inadequate to make payments on the underlying mortgage, or if not, the borrower’s debt to income ratio (DTI) belied any realistic probability that the borrower could keep up with mortgage payments over the life of the loan.”
- “[T]he declaration of Susan Wright, who underwrote loans at [FNB Nevada] in 2006 and 2007 and generally corroborates the Complaint’s allegations about [FNB Nevada]’s underwriting practices.” “Wright describes [FNB Nevada]’s business model as trying to ‘make as many loans as possible and then sell them as quickly as possible’ and explains that their underwriting practices instructed underwriters to remove income and asset information already in the possession of [FNB Nevada] from ‘No Doc’ loans. She states that [FNB Nevada] regularly made loans to borrowers whom ‘[FNB Nevada] knowingly qualified on the basis of what appeared to be obviously false information [and] [FNB Nevada] did not appear to reasonably expect that the borrowers would be able to repay these loans.’”
- “[S]everal emails generated by [FNB Nevada] employees, including Mortgage Division President Pat Lamb; Vice President of Risk Management Renea Aderhold; ‘SVP Ops/Communication Manager’ Beth Rothmuller; Senior Vice President Lisa Sleeper; and Senior Vice President and Risk Officer Eric Meschen, which collectively paint a picture of a devil-may-care underwriting culture.”
- “[T]he expert report of Ira Holt, an accountant who performed a forensic analysis of 408 of the Trusts’ loans using the [FNB Nevada] guidelines that were in place when they were originated. Holt found that 108 (26.5%) had material defects that violated even [FNB Nevada]’s slack underwriting standards.” “According to Holt, he was unable to ‘re-underwrite’ some of the 408 loans

because of the lack of documentation, as well as the ‘scrubbing’ of the applicant’s disqualifying data by [FNB Nevada]. According to plaintiffs, the number of loans in the sample with material defects may be considerably higher than Holt’s estimates.”

Plumber’s Union Local No. 12 Pension Fund v. Nomura Asset Acceptance Corp., 08-10446-RGS, 2012 WL 4480735, at *3 & nn. 6, 8 (D. Mass. Oct. 1, 2012).

133. The Court held allegations based on that evidence were sufficient to survive a motion to dismiss. *See id.* at *3 (“[D]efendants’ efforts to impugn plaintiffs’ evidence is largely factual in nature and better fitted to a summary judgment motion than the relaxed pleading standard that attaches to a Rule 12(b)(6) motion.”).

4. GreenPoint Mortgage Funding Inc.’s Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Standards

134. GreenPoint Mortgage Funding Inc. (“GreenPoint”) contributed a material portion of the loans in the mortgage pool underlying the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 offering. *See infra* Table 6.

135. GreenPoint, based in Novato, California, was the wholesale mortgage banking unit of Capital One Financial Corp. (“Capital One”). Capital One acquired GreenPoint when it purchased GreenPoint’s holding company, North Fork Bancorp, in December 2006. Capital One shut down GreenPoint’s operations less than one year later on August 21, 2007.

136. According to a press release issued by Capital One on August 20, 2007, GreenPoint had an “originate and sell” (*i.e.*, OTD) business model with a focus on “prime non-conforming and near-prime markets, especially the Alt-A mortgage sector.” Capital One eventually liquidated GreenPoint in December 2008, taking an \$850 million write-down due to mortgage-related losses associated with GreenPoint’s origination business.

137. U.S. Bank, the indenture trustee of GreenPoint Mortgage Funding Trust 2006-

HE1, sued GreenPoint in order to force GreenPoint to repurchase the loans that GreenPoint had contributed to the RMBS. U.S. Bank alleged that GreenPoint “pervasive[ly] fail[ed] to follow its underwriting guidelines during the origination of the Loans.” *U.S. Bank Nat’l Assoc. v. GreenPoint Mortg. Funding, Inc.*, No. 600352/09, 2010 WL 841367, at *7 (N.Y. Sup. Ct. Mar. 3, 2010); *see also* Compl., *U.S. Bank Nat’l Assoc. v. GreenPoint Mortg. Funding, Inc.*, 2009 WL 6084150, ¶ 35 (N.Y. Sup. Ct. Feb. 5, 2009) (alleging pervasive misrepresentations of borrowers’ income, assets, employment, intent to occupy the property, inflated appraisal values, and violations of GreenPoint’s underwriting guidelines regarding credit scores, debt-to-income ratios, and loan-to-value ratios).

138. U.S. Bank based its allegations on its forensic analysis of GreenPoint-originated loans. Of 1,030 randomly sampled loans, U.S. Bank found that 93% were in violation of GreenPoint’s underwriting guidelines. *See id.* at *7 n.4. Its complaint survived a motion to dismiss. *See id.* at *8.

139. In a lawsuit commenced by Assured Guaranty, Deutsche Bank AG sued GreenPoint after discovering significant defects in a pool of 6000 GreenPoint loans. On July 25, 2011 Justice Shirley Kornreich found that the facts alleged were sufficient to allege systemic failures in GreenPoint’s loan origination. The misrepresentations uncovered include:

- Rampant fraud, primarily involving misrepresentation of the borrower’s income, assets, employment, or intent to occupy the property as the borrower’s residence (rather than as an investment), and subsequent failure to so occupy the property;
- Failure by the borrower to accurately disclose his or her liabilities, including multiple other mortgage loans taken out to purchase additional investment property;
- Inflated and fraudulent appraisals; and,

- Pervasive violations of GreenPoint’s own underwriting guidelines and prudent mortgage lending practices, including loans made to borrowers (i) who made unreasonable claims as to their income, (ii) with multiple, unverified social-security numbers, (iii) with credit scores below the required minimum; (iv) with debt-to-income and loan-to-value ratios above the allowed maximums, or (v) with relationships to GreenPoint or other non-arm’s-length relationships.

See Assured Guaranty Municipal Corp. v. D.B. Structured Products, Inc., 650705/2010 (Supr. Ct. N.Y., New York County).).

140. GreenPoint’s own employees have corroborated the findings of U.S. Bank and Syncora. A confidential witness in *Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis v. Banc of America Mortgage Securities, Inc.*, confirmed that (1) GreenPoint employees faced intense pressure to close loans at any cost; (2) GreenPoint managers overrode employees’ decisions to reject loans and approved loans based upon inflated incomes; (3) GreenPoint approved loans that contained exceptions for which there were no reasonable compensating factors; and (4) GreenPoint failed to adhere to sound underwriting guidelines. This confidential witness was a senior loan underwriter at GreenPoint from October 1997 through August 2007. *See* Compl., *Fed. Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis v. Banc of Am. Mortg. Secs., Inc.*, ¶ 265, No. 49D051010PL045071 (Ind. Sup. Ct., Marion Cnty. filed Oct. 15, 2010) (“FHLB Indianapolis”).

141. According to that confidential witness, sales staff and managers at GreenPoint received bonuses based on the number of loans closed. As she said, “sales had tremendous authority” at GreenPoint, and “[t]hey were in business to make more money. They would try to find any way to close a loan.” *Id.* ¶ 266.

142. Between 2005 and 2007, the confidential witness said that stated income loans became increasingly popular and GreenPoint managers approved loans based upon inflated incomes that she believed should not have been approved. She saw a lot of loans with stated

“income that was more than could be justified by the borrower’s employment.” When she denied loans because she believed the income was inflated, sometimes the underwriting managers, operations managers, and the regional operations manager overrode her decisions. *Id.* ¶ 267.

143. More often than not, the confidential witness believed that her managers overrode her denials due to the incentives that they received based upon loan volume. As she said, “They were making the decision because they had to hit certain sales numbers.” She was aware of such targets because of comments made in operations meetings about the company needing to meet certain goals. *Id.* ¶ 268.

144. The FHLB Indianapolis suit survived a motion to dismiss, with the Court holding, “the plaintiff has, indeed, stated a claim upon which relief can be granted on the issue of underwriting guidelines.” *Fed. Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis v. Bank of Am. Mortg. Secs., Inc.*, No. 49D051010PL045071, 2012 WL 2844690 (Ind. Sup. Ct., Marion Cnty. July 3, 2012).

145. In *Allstate Bank v. J.P. Morgan Chase, N.A.*, Allstate, an RMBS investor, sued J.P. Morgan, the RMBS underwriter, for misrepresentations in RMBS offering documents. Allstate’s complaint relied on several confidential witnesses. One confidential witness, who was an underwriting analyst at GreenPoint from 2003 to 2007, stated that GreenPoint reviewed only 10% of the loans it originated for fraud. He thought this was a “mistake” because the fraud and misrepresentation uncovered in the 10% sample indicated that many more loans likely contained fraud. But the remaining 90% of the loans were not reviewed. Am. Compl., *Allstate Bank v. JPMorgan Chase, N.A.*, ¶ 485, No. 11-1869 (S.D.N.Y. filed May 10, 2012).

146. That confidential witness also stated that sales personnel ran GreenPoint, and senior management was comprised of people from sales who were incentivized to push the

volume of mortgage loans, not adherence to the underwriting guidelines or due diligence. Managers' bonuses were tied to production volume, and they were not penalized if loans were later found to be fraudulent or if the borrower defaulted on the first payment. He stated that GreenPoint's management deliberately overlooked misrepresentations from mortgage loan brokers, particularly if the broker brought in a high volume of loans. Problem brokers were rarely suspended, and even when they were, there was never a review of the loans they originated that were already in the pipeline. *Id.* ¶ 486.

147. Another confidential witness was a Wholesale Account Manager at GreenPoint from 2004 to 2006. That confidential witness stated that GreenPoint employees understood that if a mortgage loan could eventually be sold to Wall Street, GreenPoint was to approve and fund the mortgage loan. The majority of the loan products originated in the confidential witness's office were stated income-stated asset loans and pay-option ARMs. Despite the risk inherent in these products, the sales force "never learned of negative loan performance" and their compensation was in no way tied to loan performance. *Id.* ¶ 487.

148. Another confidential witness was an Underwriting Supervisor at GreenPoint from 2005 to 2006 and supervised five Underwriters and three Conditions Specialists. That confidential witness stated that GreenPoint management authorized exceptions to loan underwriting guidelines in order to approve applications, even when there were no compensating factors justifying the exceptions. The confidential witness was aware that management overrode decisions to refuse funding in locations known for fraud and property flipping, even when evidence of fraud was found. According to the confidential witness, "if the borrower is breathing and could sign loan documents, they could get a loan" from GreenPoint. *Id.* at ¶ 488.

149. *Allstate's* complaint also alleged that many of GreenPoint's loans were granted by

the over 18,000 brokers that were approved to transact with GreenPoint – a large enough number that GreenPoint could not exercise any realistic degree of control. Typically, new brokers were actively monitored for only the first five to seven loans submitted, usually during only the first 90 days of being approved. *Id.* ¶ 490.

150. This was problematic because mortgage brokers were known to commit fraud in order to get loan applications approved by originators. As one former mortgage wholesaler put it, “I’d walk into mortgage shops and see brokers openly cutting and pasting income documents and pay stubs, getting out the Wite-Out and changing Social Security numbers.” Mara Der Hovanesian, *Sex, Lies, and Subprime Mortgages*, Bloomberg Businessweek (Nov. 12, 2008), available at <http://www.businessweek.com/stories/2008-11-12/sex-lies-and-subprime-mortgages>.

151. GreenPoint’s pervasive disregard of underwriting standards resulted in its inclusion among the worst ten originators in the 2008 “Worst Ten in the Worst Ten” Report. GreenPoint was identified 7th worst in Stockton, California, and 9th worst in both Sacramento, California, and Las Vegas, Nevada. *See* 2008 “Worst Ten in the Worst Ten” Report. In the 2009 “Worst Ten in the Worst Ten” Report, GreenPoint was listed as 3rd worst in Modesto, California; 4th worst in Stockton, Merced, and Vallejo-Fairfield-Napa, California; 6th worst in Las Vegas, Nevada; and 9th in Reno, Nevada. *See* 2009 “Worst Ten in the Worst Ten” Report.

5. IndyMac Bank F.S.B.’s Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Standards

152. IndyMac Bank F.S.B. (“IndyMac”) originated or contributed a material portion of the loans in the mortgage pool underlying the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 offering. *See infra* Table 6.

153. On July 11, 2008, just four months after IndyMac filed its 2007 Annual Report,

federal regulators seized IndyMac in what was among the largest bank failures in U.S. history. IndyMac's parent, IndyMac Bancorp, Inc., filed for bankruptcy on July 31, 2008.

154. On March 4, 2009, the Office of the Inspector General of the United States Department of the Treasury ("Treasury OIG") issued Audit Report No. OIG-09-032, titled "Safety and Soundness: Material Loss Review of IndyMac Bank, FSB" (the "IndyMac OIG Report") reporting the results of Treasury OIG's review of the failure of IndyMac. The IndyMac OIG Report portrays IndyMac as a company determined to originate as many loans as possible, as quickly as possible, without regard for the quality of the loans, the creditworthiness of the borrowers, or the value of the underlying collateral.

155. According to the IndyMac OIG Report, "[t]he primary causes of IndyMac's failure were . . . associated with its" "aggressive growth strategy" of "originating and securitizing Alt-A loans on a large scale." IndyMac OIG Report at 2. The report found, "IndyMac often made loans without verification of the borrower's income or assets, and to borrowers with poor credit histories. Appraisals obtained by IndyMac on underlying collateral were often questionable as well." *Id.*

156. IndyMac "encouraged the use of nontraditional loans," engaged in "unsound underwriting practices" and "did not perform adequate underwriting," in an effort to "produce as many loans as possible and sell them in the secondary market." *Id.* at 11, 21. The IndyMac OIG Report reviewed a sampling of loans in default and found "little, if any, review of borrower qualifications, including income, assets, and employment." *Id.* at 11.

157. IndyMac was not concerned by the poor quality of the loans or the fact that borrowers simply "could not afford to make their payments" because, "as long as it was able to sell those loans in the secondary mortgage market," IndyMac could remain profitable. *Id.* at 2-3.

158. IndyMac’s “risk from its loan products. . .was not sufficiently offset by other underwriting parameters, primarily higher FICO scores and lower LTV ratios.” *Id.* at 31.

159. Unprepared for the downturn in the mortgage market and the sharp decrease in demand for poorly underwritten loans, IndyMac found itself “hold[ing] \$10.7 billion of loans it could not sell in the secondary market.” *Id.* at 3. This proved to be a weight it could not bear, and IndyMac ultimately failed. *See id.*

160. On July 2, 2010, the FDIC sued certain former officers of IndyMac’s Homebuilder Division (“HBD”), alleging that IndyMac disregarded its underwriting practices, among other things, and approved loans to borrowers who were not creditworthy or for projects with insufficient collateral. *See* Compl. ¶ 6, *FDIC v. Van Dellen*, No. 2:10-cv-04915-DSF (C.D. Cal. filed July 2, 2010). The case was tried in late 2012, and the jury entered verdict in favor of the FDIC.

161. IndyMac currently faces a class action lawsuit alleging disregard of underwriting standards that adversely affected the value of the purchased RMBS. *See* Class Action Compl., *In re IndyMac Mortgage-Backed Sec. Litig.*, No. 09-4583 (S.D.N.Y. filed May 14, 2009). On June 21, 2010, the class action lawsuit survived a motion to dismiss.

6. National City Mortgage’s Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Standards

162. National City Mortgage is a division of National City Bank which is a wholly owned subsidiary of National City Corporation. Collectively these entities are referred to as “National City.” National City originated or contributed loans to the pool of mortgages underlying the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 offering. *See infra* Table 6.

163. Investors brought a securities fraud class action lawsuit against National City

alleging that National City misrepresented the quality of its mortgage loans. *See* Am. Class Action Compl., *In Re National City Corp. Sec., Derivative & ERISA Litig.*, No. 08-NC-70004 (N.D. Ohio filed June 13, 2008). On August 8, 2011, it was announced that the case had settled for \$168 million.

164. National City faced another class action lawsuit alleging, among other things, that National City did not adhere to its underwriting standards. *See* Second Am. Class Action Compl., *Argent Classic Convertible Arbitrage Fund (Bermuda) LTD. and Argent Classic Convertible Arbitrage Fund L.P. v. National City Corp., et. al.*, No. 08-NC-70016 (N.D. Ohio filed Feb. 19, 2010). On November 30, 2010, the case settled for \$22.5 million.

7. WaMu's and Long Beach's Systematic Disregard of Underwriting Standards

165. WaMu or its affiliate Long Beach was the primary originator of loans in the Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 offering. *See infra* Table 6.

166. WaMu was a Seattle-based bank that rapidly grew from a regional to a national mortgage lender during the period from 1991 to 2006. At over \$300 billion in total assets, WaMu was at one time the largest institution regulated by the Office of Thrift Supervision (“OTS”). On September 25, 2008, however, federal regulators closed WaMu when loan losses, borrowing capacity limitations, a plummeting stock price, and rumors of WaMu’s problems led to a run on the bank by depositors. Federal regulators facilitated the sale of WaMu to J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., in September 2008.

167. In April 2010, the Treasury OIG, issued a report titled “Evaluation of Federal Regulatory Oversight of Washington Mutual Bank,” Report No. EVAL-10-002 (the “WaMu OIG Report”), discussing the reasons for WaMu’s meteoric rise and consequent collapse. The WaMu OIG Report found, “WaMu failed primarily because of management’s pursuit of a high-

risk lending strategy that included liberal underwriting standards and inadequate risk controls.”

WaMu OIG Report at 2. The report elaborated on how WaMu adopted this new strategy to compete with Countrywide and maximize profits:

In 2005, WaMu management made a decision to shift its business strategy away from originating traditional fixed-rate and conforming single family residential loans, towards riskier nontraditional loan products and subprime loans. WaMu pursued the new strategy in anticipation of increased earnings and to compete with Countrywide....

...

WaMu estimated in 2006 that its internal profit margin from subprime loans could be more than 10 times the amount for a government-backed loan product and more than 7 times the amount for a fixed-rate loan product.

Id. at 8 (footnote omitted).

168. As previously noted in this Complaint, the PSI issued its report on the causes of the economic crisis. The PSI Wall Street Report used WaMu as its case study into lending practices of the mortgage industry during the housing bubble. Citing internal e-mails and correspondence the PSI obtained as part of its investigation, the PSI made the following factual findings:

(1) High Risk Lending Strategy. [WaMu] executives embarked upon a High Risk Lending Strategy and increased sales of high risk home loans to Wall Street, because they projected that high risk home loans, which generally charged higher rates of interest, would be more profitable for the bank than low risk home loans.

(2) Shoddy Lending Practices. WaMu and its affiliate, [Long Beach], used shoddy lending practices riddled with credit, compliance, and operational deficiencies to make tens of thousands of high risk home loans that too often contained excessive risk, fraudulent information, or errors.

(3) Steering Borrowers to High Risk Loans. WaMu and Long Beach too often steered borrowers into home loans they could not afford, allowing and encouraging them to make low initial payments that would be followed by much higher payments, and presumed that rising home prices would enable those borrowers to refinance their loans or sell their homes before the payments shot up.

(4) Polluting the Financial System. WaMu and Long Beach securitized over \$77 billion in subprime home loans and billions more in other high risk home loans, used Wall Street firms to sell the securities to investors worldwide, and polluted the financial system with mortgage backed securities which later incurred high rates of delinquency and loss.

(5) Securitizing Delinquency-Prone and Fraudulent Loans. At times, WaMu selected and securitized loans that it had identified as likely to go delinquent, without disclosing its analysis to investors who bought the securities, and also securitized loans tainted by fraudulent information, without notifying purchasers of the fraud that was discovered.

(6) Destructive Compensation. WaMu's compensation system rewarded loan officers and loan processors for originating large volumes of high risk loans, paid extra to loan officers who overcharged borrowers or added stiff prepayment penalties, and gave executives millions of dollars even when its High Risk Lending Strategy placed the bank in financial jeopardy.

PSI Wall Street Report at 50-51.

169. In particular, the PSI Wall Street Report noted that WaMu had engaged in internal reviews of its lending practices and the lending practices of its subsidiary, Long Beach. WaMu's Chief Risk Officer, Ron Cathcart commissioned a study to look into the quality of loans originated by Long Beach. The review found that the "top five priority issues" were as follows:

"Appraisal deficiencies that could impact value and were not addressed[;]
Material misrepresentations relating to credit evaluation were confirmed[;]
Legal documents were missing or contained errors or discrepancies[;]
Credit evaluation or loan decision errors[; and]
Required credit documentation was insufficient or missing from the file."

Id. at 82 (quoting e-mail from Ron Cathcart, Chief Risk Officer, WaMu, to Cory Gunderson (Dec. 11, 2006 9:21 AM PST)).

170. Pushing "Option ARMs" was a major part of WaMu's new "high risk" lending strategy. In a bipartisan memorandum from Senators Carl Levin and Tom Coburn to the Members of the PSI, dated April 13, 2010, Option ARMS are labeled WaMu's "flagship" product. *Wall Street and the Financial Crisis: The Role of High Risk Home Loans, Hearing*

Before S. Permanent Subcomm. on Investigations, 112th Cong. (2010) (“PSI High Risk Home Loans Hearing”), Senate Exhibit 1.a, at 3. The WaMu OIG Report describes the inherently dangerous nature of WaMu’s Option ARMs:

WaMu’s Option ARMs provided borrowers with the choice to pay their monthly mortgages in amounts equal to monthly principal and interest, interest-only, or a minimum monthly payment. Borrowers selected the minimum monthly payment option for 56 percent of the Option ARM portfolio in 2005.

The minimum monthly payment was based on an introductory rate, also known as a teaser rate, which was significantly below the market interest rate and was usually in place for only 1 month. After the introductory rate expired, the minimum monthly payment feature introduced two significant risks to WaMu’s portfolio: payment shock and negative amortization. WaMu projected that, on average, payment shock increased monthly mortgage amounts by 60 percent. At the end of 2007, 84 percent of the total value of Option ARMs on WaMu’s financial statements was negatively amortizing.

WaMu OIG Report at 9.

171. The WaMu OIG Report notes that “Option ARMs represented as much as half of all loan originations from 2003 to 2007 and approximately \$59 billion, or 47 percent, of the home loans on WaMu’s balance sheet at the end of 2007.” *Id.*

172. The OIG also notes that WaMu’s “new strategy included underwriting subprime loans, home equity loans, and home equity lines of credit to high-risk borrowers. In line with that strategy, WaMu purchased and originated subprime loans, which represented approximately \$16 billion, or 13 percent, of WaMu’s 2007 home loan portfolio.” *Id.* at 10.

173. WaMu’s careless underwriting practices rendered these already high risk loan products even more risky. *See Id.* The WaMu OIG Report stated that the OTS and the FDIC repeatedly “identified concerns with WaMu’s high-risk lending strategy” and loan underwriting, weaknesses in management and “inadequate internal controls.” *Id.* at 3-4. Those concerns included “questions about the reasonableness of stated incomes contained in loan documents,

numerous underwriting exceptions, miscalculations of loan-to-value ratios, and missing or inadequate documentation.” *Hearing on Wall Street & the Fin. Crisis: The Role of Bank Regulators Before the United States S. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Comm., Permanent Subcomm. on Investigations*, 111th Cong. 9 (Apr. 16, 2010) (statement of the Hon. Eric M. Thorson, Inspector General, Dep’t of the Treasury) (“Thorson Statement”).

174. WaMu management began to notice the pattern of “first payment default” (“FPD”) for loans its Long Beach subsidiary originated. In June 2007, WaMu closed Long Beach as a separate entity and placed its subprime lending operations in a new division called “Wholesale Specialty Lending.”

175. In late 2007, WaMu performed an internal review to determine whether its plans to address its poor underwriting practices were effective. The review focused on 187 loans that experienced FPD, originated from November 2006 to March 2007. As an initial matter, the review found:

The overall system of credit risk management activities and process has major weaknesses resulting in unacceptable level of credit risk. Exposure is considerable and immediate corrective action is essential in order to limit or avoid considerable losses, reputation damage, or financial statement errors.

PSI High Risk Home Loans Hearing, Senate Ex. 21, “WaMu Corporate Credit Review: Wholesale Specialty Lending-FPD” at 2 (Sept. 28, 2007).

176. Specifically, the WaMu internal review reported the following findings regarding the 187 FPD loans:

- (High) Ineffectiveness of fraud detection tools – 132 of the 187 (71%) files were reviewed by Risk Mitigation for fraud. Risk Mitigation confirmed fraud on 115 files and could not confirm on 17 of the files, but listed them as “highly suspect.” This issue is a repeat finding with CCR.
- (High) Weak credit risk infrastructure impacting credit quality. Credit weakness and underwriting deficiencies is a repeat finding with CCR. It

was also identified as a repeat finding and Criticism in the OTS Asset Quality memo 3 issued May 17, 2007. Internal Audit in their August 20, 2007 Loan Origination & Underwriting report identified it as a repeat issue. Findings from the CCR FPD review in relation to credit quality:

- 132 of the 187 loans sampled were identified with red flags that were not addressed by the business unit
- 80 of the 112 (71%) stated income loans were identified for lack of reasonableness of income
- 87 files (47%) exceeded program parameters in place at the time of approval
- 133 (71%) had credit evaluation or loan decision errors present
- 25 (13%) had the title report issues that were not addressed
- 28 (14%) had income calculation errors and 35 (19%) had income documentation errors
- 58 (31%) had appraisal discrepancies that raised concerns that the value was not supported

Id. at 3.

177. An OTS memorandum on Loan Fraud Investigation, dated June 19, 2008, noted the systematic nature of the problem: “[T]he review defines an origination culture focused more heavily on production volume rather than quality. An example of this was a finding that production personnel were allowed to participate in aspects of the income, employment, or asset verification process, a clear conflict of interest. . . . Prior OTS examinations have raised similar issues including the need to implement incentive compensation programs to place greater emphasis on loan quality.” PSI High Risk Home Loans Hearing, Senate Ex. 25, Memorandum from D. Schneider, President Home Loans, to A. Hedger, OTS Examiner and B. Franklin, OTS EIC at 1 (June 19, 2008).

178. A WaMu Significant Incident Notification , Date Incident Reported – 04/01/2008, Loss Type - Mortgage Loan, stated:

One Sales Associate admitted that during that crunch time some of the Associates would ‘manufacture’ assets statements from previous loan docs and submit them to the [Loan Fulfillment Center (‘LFC’)]. She said the pressure was tremendous from the LFC to get them the docs since the loan had already funded and pressure from the Loan Consultants to get the loans funded.

PSI High Risk Home Loans Hearing, Senate Ex. 30, “Significant Incident Notification (SIN)” at 1 (Apr. 1, 2008).

179. WaMu’s underwriting also critically failed with respect to appraisals as well. An accurate appraisal of a property’s market value is crucial to the underwriting process as the property provides collateral for the loan in case of default.

WaMu’s review of appraisals establishing the value of single family homes did not always follow standard residential appraisal methods because WaMu allowed a homeowner’s estimate of the value of the home to be included on the form sent from WaMu to third-party appraisers, thereby biasing the appraiser’s evaluation.

WaMu OIG Report at 11.

180. Federal regulators also noted that “WaMu acquired 11 institutions and merged with 2 affiliates” from 1991 to 2006, yet failed to “fully integrate . . . information technology systems, risk controls, and policies and procedures” from its acquisitions and institute “a single enterprise-wide risk management system.” Thorson Statement at 5. An integrated risk management system was critically important in light of WaMu’s high-risk lending strategy. *See id.*

181. Long Beach, a WaMu affiliate, specialized in the riskiest of loans—subprime mortgages. Internal WaMu documents reveal a well-documented pattern of underwriting deficiencies at Long Beach. A memorandum to the Washington Mutual, Inc. and WaMu Board of Directors’ Audit Committees, dated April 17, 2006, re: *Long Beach Mortgage Company - Repurchase Reserve Root Cause Analysis* states: “[Long Beach] experienced a dramatic increase in EPDs[] during the third quarter of 2005. . . . [R]elaxed credit guidelines, breakdowns in manual underwriting processes, and inexperienced subprime personnel . . . coupled with a push to increase loan volume and the lack of an automated fraud monitoring tool, exacerbated the deterioration in loan quality.” Senate Exhibit 10 at 1-2.

182. A WaMu Audit Report titled *Long Beach Mortgage Loan Origination & Underwriting*, dated August 20, 2007, states: “[T]he overall system of risk management and internal controls has deficiencies related to multiple, critical origination and underwriting processes. . . . These deficiencies require immediate effective corrective action to limit continued exposure to losses.” Senate Exhibit 19 at 2. In its “Executive Summary” section, this Audit Report states:

In response to challenges resulting from the softening housing market, rising interest rates, tightening capital markets, poor portfolio performance and underwriting deficiencies, [Long Beach] continually refines their processes and guidelines. While management has been responsive to these challenges by identifying and implementing corrective actions, actual underwriting practices have not been consistent to achieve the desired levels of improvement. Continued patterns of loans being underwritten outside of established underwriting and documentation guidelines have been previously identified.

Id. at 2. It also identifies the following as the number one high rated “repeat issue” to correct: “Underwriting guidelines established to mitigate the risk of unsound underwriting decisions are not always followed and the decisioning methodology is not always fully documented.” *Id.* at 8. The number two “repeat issue” was identified as “[p]olicies and procedures defined to allow and monitor reasonable and appropriate exceptions to underwriting guidelines are not consistently followed.” *Id.* at 10. An e-mail from a WaMu executive describes the Long Beach audit report as “the ultimate in bayonetting the wounded, if not the dead.” Senate Exhibit 20 at 1.

183. In a WaMu internal report titled “[Long Beach] Post Mortem – Early Findings Read Out,” dated November 1, 2005, the authors note the following “common theme” surfacing: “Underwriting guidelines are not consistently followed and conditions are not consistently or effectively met.” Senate Exhibit 9 at 1. The report goes on to note that 60% of First Payment Default cases could have been prevented “had current policy, procedures and guidelines been better executed.” *Id.* at 2.

184. In Gretchen Morgenson's July 9, 2010, article titled *Mortgage Investors Turn to State Courts for Relief*, Morgenson of THE NEW YORK TIMES reported on a lawsuit filed by Cambridge Place Investment Management, an investment management firm that lost over a billion dollars in RMBS it bought for clients, against 15 banks, for abetting fraud. The complaint alleges that management at Long Beach directed underwriters to "'approve, approve, approve'" and highlights the "anything-goes" lending practices at Long Beach:

One Long Beach program made loans to self-employed borrowers based on three letters of reference from past employers. A former worker said some letters amounted to "So-and-so cuts my lawn and does a good job," adding that the company made no attempt to verify the information, the complaint stated.

185. The OTS also reported concerns with subprime underwriting practices by Long Beach from 2006 to 2007. See Thorson Statement at 9-10.

E. Loans That Did Not Comply with the Underwriting Guidelines Were Routinely Collateral for Goldman Sachs Underwritten RMBS

186. A February 2010 report from J.P. Morgan noted that "[t]he outstanding balance of [private-label] mortgages grew from roughly \$600 billion at the end of 2003 to \$2.2 trillion at its peak in 2007." Gary J. Madich et al, *Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities: Managing Opportunities and Risks*, J.P. Morgan Asset Management at 2 (Feb. 2010), available at http://www.jpmorganinstitutional.com/cm/BlobServer/Non-Agency_Mortgage-Backed_Securities.pdf?blobkey=id&blobwhere=1321504668623&blobheader=application%2Fpdf&blobcol=urldata&blobtable=MungoBlobs&isAMIA=yes. While unknown to reasonable investors at that time, it now is apparent that this massive expansion in the origination of loans over a short period of time was accomplished by ignoring underwriting standards. The J.P. Morgan report also noted that home prices rose, requiring larger loans: "[private-label] mortgage

providers initially met this need for larger loans while maintaining stringent qualifications. However, investment banks were willing to buy lower quality mortgages and bundle them for issuance into new and innovative forms of Asset Backed Securities (ABS) and Collateralized Debt Obligations (CDOs).” *Id.*

187. During the FCIC investigation referenced above (*supra* at Section VII.D.1), Clayton Holdings provided evidence that Goldman Sachs securitized a significant number of loans that did not comply with the stated underwriting guidelines.

188. Clayton was the leading provider of due diligence services for RMBS offerings during the relevant time period. This gave Clayton “a unique inside view of the underwriting standards that originators were actually applying.” FCIC Report at 166.

189. Banks routinely hired Clayton to inspect the mortgage loans that the banks securitized into RMBS. Clayton would determine whether the loans complied with the originators’ stated underwriting guidelines, and prepare a report of its findings for the bank. *See* FCIC Testimony of Vicki Beal, Senior Vice President of Clayton Holdings (Sept. 23, 2010), available at http://fcic-static.law.stanford.edu/cdn_media/fcic-testimony/2010-0923-Beal.pdf.

190. From January 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, Clayton reviewed 911,039 loans. Only 54% of those met the originators’ underwriting guidelines. Clayton’s former President and CEO, Keith Johnson, testified that the “54% says there [was] a quality control issue in the [originators].” FCIC Report at 166; Audiotape of FCIC Interview with Keith Johnson, former President of Clayton (“Johnson FCIC Interview”) (Sept. 2, 2010) (“Even if the guideline was bad, [the loans] didn’t adhere to the guideline To me in hindsight, [the data] just said there was a . . . fundamental breakdown.”), available at <http://fcic.law.stanford.edu/interviews/view/220>. Another 18% of the loans failed the

underwriting guidelines but were deemed to have adequate compensating factors. That left a large number – 28% – that did not meet the underwriting guidelines and had no compensating factors. *See* All Clayton Trending Reports, 1st Quarter 2006 – 2nd Quarter 2007, at 1 (2007), available at http://fcic-static.law.stanford.edu/cdn_media/fcic-testimony/2010-0923-Clayton-All-Trending-Report.pdf (“All Clayton Trending Report”).

191. Clayton confirmed that the RMBS sold by Goldman Sachs from the beginning of 2006 through the middle of 2007—which includes all of the certificates listed in Table 1 this Complaint—contained a substantial number of loans that were not originated in conformity with underwriting guidelines. *See* All Clayton Trending Report at 6.

192. As revealed during the FCIC investigation in 2010, Clayton routinely found large numbers of loans that were not properly originated under the applicable underwriting guidelines. Despite identifying these defectively originated loans, Clayton stated that they often were included into the RMBS that was being sold to investors. *See* FCIC Report at 166-67; All Clayton Trending Report at 1.

193. Clayton reviewed 111,999 loans for Goldman Sachs. It found that 25,607 (22.9%) did not comply with the stated underwriting guidelines and did not have compensating factors. Goldman Sachs waived the defects for 7,467 of the 25,607 (29.2%).

194. Clayton typically performed due diligence on a small sample of the loans that were being securitized into an RMBS offering – approximately 10%. FCIC Testimony of Vicky Beal at 2. No due diligence was performed on the remaining loans. Thus, of the small sample of loans that Clayton did review, approximately 10% did not comply with the underwriting guidelines and did not have compensating factors, but were nonetheless securitized. Extrapolating Clayton’s results shows that for the remaining 90% of loans that were not

reviewed, over 20% did not comply with the underwriting guidelines and did not have compensating factors, but were nonetheless securitized. In total, Clayton's data shows that over 20% of the loans Goldman Sachs securitized were defective. All Clayton Trending Reports at 6.

F. Additional Evidence Confirms That Defective Loans Were Routinely Packaged into Goldman Sachs's RMBS.

195. Clayton officials offered an explanation for why so many defective loans were packaged into RMBS. When asked what caused the financial crisis, one pointed to the banks belief that they had no liability for loans' compliance with underwriting guidelines: "When it came to the underwriting [guidelines] . . . and [securitizers] could perhaps distribute that risk quickly, then that wasn't as high on their priorities." Johnson FCIC Interview.

196. A number of loan originators had an express policy of attempting to sell loans that had already been rejected. Because only a small percentage of the pools were reviewed by a due diligence firm like Clayton (or its chief competitor, Bohan), there was a very strong likelihood that those defective loans would enter the pool on the second or third attempt. Clayton referred to this practice as the "three strikes, you're out rule." Transcript, FCIC Hearing, The Financial Crisis at the Community Level—Sacramento, CA at 178 (Sept. 23, 2010) (testimony of D. Keith Johnson, former President of Clayton), available at http://fcic-static.law.stanford.edu/cdn_media/fcic-testimony/2010-0923-transcript.pdf.

197. The FCIC Report also concluded that banks like Goldman Sachs that securitized loans were reluctant to review or reject loans in greater numbers because doing so would endanger their relationship with originators. FCIC Report at 166 ("[Clayton's former CEO] concluded that his clients often waived in loans to preserve their business relationship with the loan originator—a high number of rejections might lead the originator to sell the loans to a competitor."); Paul Muolo and Matthew Padilla, Chain of Blame 228 (2010) ("There were two

reasons the [Wall] Street firms reviewed only a small sample of the loans they were buying

The most important reason was the relationship with the lender. ‘The lower the sample you requested [of the lender], the more likely it was that you’d win the bid.’”).

VIII. THE OFFERING DOCUMENTS CONTAINED UNTRUE STATEMENTS OF MATERIAL FACT

198. The Offering Documents included material untrue statements or omitted facts necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

199. For purposes of Section 11 liability, the prospectus supplements are part of and included in the registration statements of the offerings pursuant to 17 C.F.R. §§ 230.158, 230.430B (2008); *see also* Securities Offering Reform, 70 Fed. Reg. 44722-01, 44768-69 (Aug. 3, 2005).

200. Statements in the Offering Documents concerning the following subjects were material and untrue at the time they were made: (1) the loans adhered to the applicable underwriting guidelines, including that exceptions to those guidelines would only be granted when warranted by compensating factors; (2) the loans adhered to certain underwriting standards for reduced documentation programs; and (3) that appraisals were accurate, that loans had certain LTV ratios individually and in the aggregate, and that the borrowers had certain debt-to-income (“DTI”) ratios.

201. The following table lists the originators that contributed loans to each RMBS, as identified in the Offering Documents. Under SEC’s Regulation AB, the Offering Documents must disclose the originators that contributed more than 10% of the loans underlying the RMBS, and the Offering Documents must include underwriting guidelines for the originators that

contributed more than 20% of the loans underlying the RMBS. *See* 17 C.F.R. § 229.1110 (2005). For the RMBS listed below, the Offering Documents included only those underwriting guidelines for the Originators that contributed more than 20% of the loans to the RMBS.

Table 6
Originators Supplying Loans for Each RMBS at Issue

CUSIP	Issuing Entity	Tranche	Originator(s)
3622EAAX8	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3	1-A-1-B	GreenPoint Mortgage Funding, Inc. (28.54%) Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. (20.02%) First National Bank of Nevada (10.84%) Goldman Sachs Mortgage Company (30.88%) IndyMac Bank, F.S.B. (9.72%)
3622ECAC0	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	2-A-2-A	Countrywide Mortgage Funding, Inc. (61.96%) National City Mortgage Co. (7.92%) Goldman Sachs Mortgage Company (29.11%)
54251TAD1	Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7	2-A-3	Long Beach Mortgage Company (100%)

202. Examples of material untrue statements and/or omissions of fact in the Offering Documents of the RMBS listed above follow.

A. Untrue Statements Concerning Adherence to Underwriting Guidelines

203. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement provided the following description of Countrywide's underwriting guidelines:

As part of its evaluation of potential borrowers, Countrywide Home Loans generally requires a description of income. If required by its underwriting guidelines, Countrywide Home Loans obtains employment verification providing current and historical income information and/or a telephonic employment confirmation. Such employment verification may be obtained, either through analysis of the prospective borrower's recent pay stub and/or W-2 forms for the most recent two years, relevant portions of the most recent two years' tax returns, or from the prospective borrower's employer, wherein the employer reports the length of employment and current salary with that organization. Self-employed prospective borrowers generally are required to submit relevant portions of their federal tax returns for the past two years.

In assessing a prospective borrower's creditworthiness, Countrywide Home Loans may use FICO Credit Scores. "FICO Credit Scores" are statistical credit scores designed to assess a borrower's creditworthiness and likelihood to default on a consumer obligation over a two-year period based on a borrower's credit history. FICO Credit Scores were not developed to predict the likelihood of default on mortgage loans and, accordingly, may not be indicative of the ability of a borrower to repay its mortgage loan. FICO Credit Scores range from approximately 250 to approximately 900, with higher scores indicating an individual with a more favorable credit history compared to an individual with a lower score. Under Countrywide Home Loans' underwriting guidelines, borrowers possessing higher FICO Credit Scores, which indicate a more favorable credit history and who give Countrywide Home Loans the right to obtain the tax returns they filed for the preceding two years, may be eligible for Countrywide Home Loans' processing program (the "Preferred Processing Program").

Periodically the data used by Countrywide Home Loans to complete the underwriting analysis may be obtained by a third party, particularly for mortgage loans originated through a loan correspondent or mortgage broker. In those instances, the initial determination as to whether a mortgage loan complies with Countrywide Home Loans' underwriting guidelines may be made by an independent company hired to perform underwriting services on behalf of Countrywide Home Loans, the loan correspondent or mortgage broker. In addition, Countrywide Home Loans may acquire mortgage loans from approved correspondent lenders under a program pursuant to which Countrywide Home Loans delegates to the correspondent the obligation to underwrite the mortgage loans to Countrywide Home Loans' standards. Under these circumstances, the underwriting of a mortgage loan may not have been reviewed by Countrywide Home Loans before acquisition of the mortgage loan and the correspondent represents that Countrywide Home Loans' underwriting standards have been met. After purchasing mortgage loans under those circumstances, Countrywide Home Loans conducts a quality control review of a sample of the mortgage loans. The number of loans reviewed in the quality control process varies based on a variety of factors, including Countrywide Home Loans' prior experience with the correspondent lender and the results of the quality control review process itself.

Countrywide Home Loans' underwriting standards are applied by or on behalf of Countrywide Home Loans to evaluate the prospective borrower's credit standing and repayment ability and the value and adequacy of the mortgaged property as collateral. Under those standards, a prospective borrower must generally demonstrate that the ratio of the borrower's monthly housing expenses (including principal and interest on the proposed mortgage loan and, as applicable, the related monthly portion of property taxes, hazard insurance and mortgage insurance) to the borrower's monthly gross income and the ratio of total monthly debt to the monthly gross income (the "debt-to-income" ratios) are within acceptable limits.

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-63. *See also* GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 Prospectus Supplement at S-64-65.

204. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement stated:

Exceptions to Countrywide Home Loan's underwriting guidelines may be made if compensating factors are demonstrated by a prospective borrower.

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-64; *see also* GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 Prospectus Supplement at S-65.

205. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement states:

Generally, the GreenPoint underwriting guidelines are applied to evaluate the prospective borrower's credit standing and repayment ability and the value and adequacy of the mortgaged property as collateral. Exceptions to the guidelines are permitted where compensating factors are present. The GreenPoint underwriting guidelines are generally not as strict as Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac guidelines. GreenPoint's underwriting guidelines are applied in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-59.

206. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement states:

As part of its evaluation of potential borrowers, GreenPoint generally requires a description of the borrower's income. If required by its underwriting guidelines, GreenPoint obtains employment verification providing current and historical income information and/or a telephonic employment confirmation. Employment verification may be obtained through analysis of the prospective borrower's recent pay stubs and/or W-2 forms for the most recent two years or relevant portions of the borrower's most recent two years' tax returns, or from the prospective borrower's employer, wherein the employer reports the borrower's length of employment and current salary with that organization. Self-employed prospective borrowers generally are required to submit relevant portions of their federal tax returns for the past two years.

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-60.

207. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement stated:

Substantially all of the mortgage loans acquired by [Goldman Sachs Mortgage Company "GSMC"] through its conduit program were acquired generally in accordance with the underwriting criteria described in this section. In certain

instances, compensating factors demonstrated to the mortgage loan originator by a prospective borrower may warrant GSMC to make certain exceptions to these guidelines. In such instances GSMC would purchase a mortgage loan that did not completely conform to the guidelines set out below.

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-69. *See also* GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 Prospectus Supplement at S-70.

208. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement stated:

The underwriting guidelines used to originate certain of the mortgage loans acquired by GSMC are different from and, in some cases, less stringent than the underwriting standards established by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. The differences primarily relate to loan characteristics such as original principal balances, loan-to-value ratios, borrower income, required documentation, interest rates, credit and payment histories, borrower occupancy of the mortgaged property and/or property types. Mortgage loans originated pursuant to underwriting standards different from those of FannieMae or Freddie Mac may experience higher rates of delinquency and/or credit losses than mortgage loans originated by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. In addition, compensating factors demonstrated by a prospective borrower may warrant certain exceptions to the underwriting standards described in this section.

Generally, each borrower applying for a mortgage loan must complete a credit application. The credit application is designed to provide the originating lender with relevant information about the prospective borrower with respect to the borrower's assets, liabilities, income (except as described below), credit history, employment history and personal information. In addition, prospective borrowers generally must provide an authorization to apply for a credit report. A credit report typically summarizes the borrower's past credit experience with lenders and other debtors, including available public records such as bankruptcy. Sometimes, the borrower is required to authorize the originating lender to verify deposits at financial institutions identified by the borrower as institutions at which the borrower maintains demand or savings accounts. The originating lender may also consider certain non-wage income of the borrower in the underwriting process, including income derived from mortgaged properties that are investment properties or two- to four-unit dwellings. Generally, the originating lender will not consider income derived from vacation or second homes in the underwriting process. Certain borrowers with acceptable payment histories are not required to state their income on their loan application and, as a result, the originating lender does not verify their income.

Based on the data referred to above (and verification of that data, to the extent required), the originating lender makes a determination about whether the

borrower's monthly income (when verified or stated) will be sufficient to enable the borrower to meet their monthly obligations on the mortgage loan (including taxes and insurance) and their other non housing obligations (such as installment and revolving loans). Generally, the ratio of total monthly obligations divided by total monthly gross income is less than or equal to 50%, with exceptions on a case-by-case basis. The exceptions are determined on the basis of various underwriting criteria, often including the amount of liquid assets available to the borrower after origination, and the borrower's prior credit history and demonstrated payment capacity.

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-69-70. *See also* GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 Prospectus Supplement at S-70-71.

209. The Long Beach Mortgage Trust 2006-7 Trust Prospectus Supplement stated:

The sponsor's underwriting guidelines are primarily intended to evaluate the applicant's credit standing and repayment ability and the value and adequacy of the mortgaged property as collateral for the mortgage loan.

Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 Prospectus Supplement at S-12.

210. The Long Beach Mortgage Trust 2006-7 Trust Prospectus Supplement stated:

During the underwriting or re-underwriting process, the sponsor reviews and verifies the prospective borrower's sources of income (only under the full documentation residential loan program), calculates the amount of income from all such sources indicated on the loan application, reviews the credit history and credit score(s) of the prospective borrower and calculates the debt-to-income ratio to determine the prospective borrower's ability to repay the loan, and determines whether the mortgaged property complies with the sponsor's underwriting guidelines.

Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 Prospectus Supplement at S-37.

211. The Long Beach Mortgage Trust 2006-7 Trust Prospectus stated:

Initially, a prospective borrower is required to complete an application with respect to the applicant's liabilities, income and credit history and personal information, as well as an authorization to apply for a credit report that summarizes the borrower's reported credit history with local merchants and lenders and any record of bankruptcy. In addition, an employment verification is obtained that reports the borrower's current salary and may contain information regarding length of employment. If a prospective borrower is self-employed, the borrower is required to submit copies of signed tax returns or other proof of business income. The borrower may also be required to authorize verification of deposits at financial institutions where the borrower has demand or savings

accounts. In the case of a multifamily loan, commercial loan or mixed-use loan, the mortgagor will also be required to provide certain information regarding the related mortgaged property, including a current rent roll and operating income statements which may be pro forma and unaudited. In addition, the originator will generally also consider the location of the mortgaged property, the availability of competitive lease space and rental income of comparable properties in the relevant market area, the overall economy and demographic features of the geographic area and the mortgagor's prior experience in owning and operating properties similar to the multifamily properties or commercial properties, as the case may be.

Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 Prospectus, July 21, 2006 at 29.

212. **UNTRUE STATEMENTS AND OMITTED INFORMATION:** The preceding statements were material at the time they were made, because the quality of the loans in the mortgage pool directly affects the riskiness of the RMBS investment, and the quality of the loans is dependent upon the underwriting process employed. The preceding statements were untrue at the time they were made because, among other things, the Originators did not adhere to the stated underwriting guidelines, did not effectively evaluate the borrowers' ability or likelihood to repay the loans, did not properly evaluate whether the borrower's debt-to-income ratio supported a conclusion that the borrower had the means to meet his/her monthly obligations, and did not ensure that adequate compensating factors justified the granting of exceptions to guidelines.

B. Untrue Statements Concerning Adherence to Reduced Documentation Program Underwriting Guidelines

213. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement stated:

In connection with the Standard Underwriting Guidelines, Countrywide Home Loans originates or acquires mortgage loans under the Full Documentation Program, the Alternative Documentation Program, the Reduced Documentation Program, the CLUES Plus Documentation Program or the Streamlined Documentation Program.

The Alternative Documentation Program permits a borrower to provide W-2 forms instead of tax returns covering the most recent two years, permits bank statements in lieu of verification of deposits and permits alternative methods of employment verification.

Under the Reduced Documentation Program, some underwriting documentation concerning income, employment and asset verification is waived. Countrywide Home Loans obtains from a prospective borrower either a verification of deposit or bank statements for the two-month period immediately before the date of the mortgage loan application or verbal verification of employment. Since information relating to a prospective borrower's income and employment is not verified, the borrower's debt-to-income ratios are calculated based on the information provided by the borrower in the mortgage loan application. The maximum Loan-to-Value Ratio ranges up to 95%.

The CLUES Plus Documentation Program permits the verification of employment by alternative means, if necessary, including verbal verification of employment or reviewing paycheck stubs covering the pay period immediately prior to the date of the mortgage loan application. To verify the borrower's assets and the sufficiency of the borrower's funds for closing, Countrywide Home Loans obtains deposit or bank account statements from each prospective borrower for the month immediately prior to the date of the mortgage loan application. Under the CLUES Plus Documentation Program, the maximum Loan-to-Value Ratio is 75% and property values may be based on appraisals comprising only interior and exterior inspections. Cash-out refinances and investor properties are not permitted under the CLUES Plus Documentation Program.

The Streamlined Documentation Program is available for borrowers who are refinancing an existing mortgage loan that was originated or acquired by Countrywide Home Loans provided that, among other things, the mortgage loan has not been more than 30 days delinquent in payment during the previous twelve-month period. Under the Streamlined Documentation Program, appraisals are obtained only if the loan amount of the loan being refinanced had a Loan-to-Value Ratio at the time of origination in excess of 80% or if the loan amount of the new loan being originated is greater than \$650,000. In addition, under the Streamlined Documentation Program, a credit report is obtained but only a limited credit review is conducted, no income or asset verification is required, and telephonic verification of employment is permitted. The maximum Loan-to-Value Ratio under the Streamlined Documentation Program ranges up to 95%.

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-66-67; GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 Prospectus Supplement at S-67-68.

214. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement also represented:

In connection with the Expanded Underwriting Guidelines, Countrywide Home Loans originates or acquires mortgage loans under the Full Documentation Program, the Alternative Documentation Program, the Reduced Documentation Loan Program, the No Income/No Asset Documentation Program and the Stated Income/Stated Asset Documentation Program. Neither the No Income/No Asset

Documentation Program nor the Stated Income/Stated Asset Documentation Program is available under the Standard Underwriting Guidelines.

The same documentation and verification requirements apply to mortgage loans documented under the Alternative Documentation Program regardless of whether the loan has been underwritten under the Expanded Underwriting Guidelines or the Standard Underwriting Guidelines. However, under the Alternative Documentation Program, mortgage loans that have been underwritten pursuant to the Expanded Underwriting Guidelines may have higher loan balances and Loan-to-Value Ratios than those permitted under the Standard Underwriting Guidelines.

Similarly, the same documentation and verification requirements apply to mortgage loans documented under the Reduced Documentation Program regardless of whether the loan has been underwritten under the Expanded Underwriting Guidelines or the Standard Underwriting Guidelines. However, under the Reduced Documentation Program, higher loan balances and Loan-to-Value Ratios are permitted for mortgage loans underwritten pursuant to the Expanded Underwriting Guidelines than those permitted under the Standard Underwriting Guidelines. The maximum Loan-to-Value Ratio, including secondary financing, ranges up to 90%. The borrower is not required to disclose any income information for some mortgage loans originated under the Reduced Documentation Program, and accordingly debt-to-income ratios are not calculated or included in the underwriting analysis. The maximum Loan-to-Value Ratio, including secondary financing, for those mortgage loans ranges up to 85%.

Under the No Income/No Asset Documentation Program, no documentation relating to a prospective borrower's income, employment or assets is required and therefore debt-to-income ratios are not calculated or included in the underwriting analysis, or if the documentation or calculations are included in a mortgage loan file, they are not taken into account for purposes of the underwriting analysis. This program is limited to borrowers with excellent credit histories. Under the No Income/No Asset Documentation Program, the maximum Loan-to-Value Ratio, including secondary financing, ranges up to 95%. Mortgage loans originated under the No Income/No Asset Documentation Program are generally eligible for sale to Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac.

Under the Stated Income/Stated Asset Documentation Program, the mortgage loan application is reviewed to determine that the stated income is reasonable for the borrower's employment and that the stated assets are consistent with the borrower's income. The Stated Income/Stated Asset Documentation Program permits maximum Loan-to-Value Ratios up to 90%. Mortgage loans originated under the Stated Income/Stated Asset Documentation Program are generally eligible for sale to Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac.

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-67-68; *see also* GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 Prospectus Supplement at S-69.

215. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement stated:

In addition to its “full” documentation program, loans acquired by GSMC through its conduit program may also be originated under the following documentation programs: “alt doc,” “stated income/verified assets”, “stated income/stated assets”, “no ratio”, “no income/verified assets” and “no doc.” These documentation programs are designed to streamline the underwriting process.

The “alt doc,” “stated income/verified assets”, “stated income/stated assets”, “no ratio”, “no income/verified assets” and “no doc” programs generally require less documentation and verification than do “full” documentation programs.

Generally, the “full” documentation program requires information with respect to the borrower’s income and assets (i.e., standard Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac approved forms for verification of income/employment, assets and certain payment histories). However, alternative forms of standard verifications may also be used for income (i.e., W-2 forms, tax returns and/or pay stubs) and assets (i.e., bank statements).

Generally, under “full” documentation programs at least two years of income documentation is provided. Assets and employment history must also be verified by the originating lender.

Generally, the “alt doc” documentation program requires similar information with respect to the borrower’s income as a “full” documentation program. However, under “alt doc” documentation programs a minimum of 12 months of income documentation and 24 months of employment history must be provided. Bank statements may be used to verify income. Assets must be verified through documentation by the originating lender.

Generally, under the “stated income/stated asset” program, the borrower’s income is stated on the credit application but not verified by the originator. However, 24 months of employment history must be verified by the originating lender and assets must be verified through documentation.

Generally, under the “stated income/stated assets” program, both income and assets are stated on the loan application, but the originator verifies neither; although the stated income must be reasonable relative to the borrower’s stated employment. However, employment history must be verified by the originating lender.

Generally, under the “no ratio” program, the borrower’s income is neither stated on the credit application nor verified by the originator. However, employment history must be verified by the originating lender and assets must be verified through documentation.

Generally, under the “no income/verified assets” program, the borrower’s income is neither stated nor verified. The current and prior source of income (i.e., employer) is neither stated nor verified. Assets are both stated and verified through documentation.

Generally, under the “no doc” program, the borrower’s income and assets are neither stated on the credit application nor verified by the originator. The underwriting for mortgage loans originated under a “no doc” program may be based primarily or entirely on the appraised value of the mortgaged property and the loan-to-value ratio at origination as well as on the payment history and credit score of the related borrower. Employment history is neither stated nor verified by the originating lender.

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-70. *See also* GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 Prospectus Supplement at S-71.

216. The Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 Prospectus Supplement represented:

The mortgage loans have been, or will be, originated or re-underwritten upon acquisition, generally in accordance with guidelines established by the sponsor under its full documentation, limited documentation or stated income documentation residential loan programs.

Under the full documentation residential loan program, salaried prospective borrowers are generally required to submit their most recent W-2s and pay stubs and self-employed prospective borrowers are generally required to submit their most recent federal income tax return. Under the stated income documentation residential loan program, prospective borrowers are required to state their income on the application but are not required to submit any documents in support. Under the limited documentation residential loan program, salaried prospective borrowers or self-employed prospective borrowers are generally required to submit their most recent six months of personal bank statements or business bank statements. Under the limited documentation and stated income documentation residential loan programs, the prospective borrower’s employment and income sources must be stated on the prospective borrower’s application. The prospective borrower’s income as stated must be reasonable for the related occupation and such determination as to reasonableness is subject to the loan underwriter’s discretion. However, the prospective borrower’s income as stated on the application is not independently verified. Verification of employment is required for salaried prospective borrowers. Maximum loan-to-value ratios under the stated income documentation residential loan programs are generally lower than those permitted under the full documentation and limited documentation residential loan programs. Generally, the same underwriting guidelines that apply to the full

documentation and limited documentation residential loan programs, except as noted in this section, apply to the limited documentation and stated income documentation residential loan programs.

Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 Prospectus Supplement at S-39.

217. **UNTRUE STATEMENTS AND OMITTED INFORMATION:** The preceding statements were material at the time they were made, because the quality of the loans in the mortgage pool directly affects the riskiness of the RMBS investment, and the quality of the loans is dependent upon the underwriting process employed. The preceding statements were untrue at the time they were made, because regardless of the documentation program purportedly employed, the Originators systematically disregarded their underwriting guidelines.

C. Untrue Statements Concerning Loan-to-Value Ratios and DTI Ratios

218. The Offering Documents provided statistical descriptions of the collateral, such as LTV ratios, combined LTV ratios, and DTI ratios. *See, e.g.*, GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement, at Schedule A.

219. The Offering Documents represented that independent and objective appraisals were obtained for the properties. *See, e.g.*, GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement, at S-61, (“All appraisals are required to conform the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice adopted by the Appraisal Board of the Appraisal Foundation”)

220. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement stated:

Countrywide Home Loan’s Standard Underwriting Guidelines for mortgage loans with non-conforming original principal balances generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination of up to 95% for purchase money or rate and term refinance mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$400,000, up to 90% for mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$650,000, up to 75% for mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$1,000,000, up to 65% for mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$1,500,000, and up to 60% for mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$2,000,000.

For cash-out refinance mortgage loans, Countrywide Home Loan's Standard Underwriting Guidelines for mortgage loans with non-conforming original principal balances generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination of up to 75% and original principal balances ranging up to \$650,000. The maximum "cash-out" amount permitted is \$200,000 and is based in part on the original Loan-to-Value Ratio of the related mortgage loan. As used in this prospectus supplement, a refinance mortgage loan is classified as a cash-out refinance mortgage loan by Countrywide Home Loans if the borrower retains an amount greater than the lesser of 2% of the entire amount of the proceeds from the refinancing of the existing loan or \$2,000.

Countrywide Home Loan's Standard Underwriting Guidelines for conforming balance mortgage loans generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination on owner occupied properties of up to 95% on 1 unit properties with principal balances up to \$417,000 (\$625,500 in Alaska and Hawaii) and 2 unit properties with principal balances up to \$533,850 (\$800,775 in Alaska and Hawaii) and up to 80% on 3 unit properties with principal balances of up to \$645,300 (\$967,950 in Alaska and Hawaii) and 4 unit properties with principal balances of up to \$801,950 (\$1,202,925 in Alaska and Hawaii). On second homes, Countrywide Home Loan's Standard Underwriting Guidelines for conforming balance mortgage loans generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination of up to 95% on 1 unit properties with principal balances up to \$417,000 (\$625,500 in Alaska and Hawaii). Countrywide Home Loan's Standard Underwriting Guidelines for conforming balance mortgage loans generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination on investment properties of up to 90% on 1 unit properties with principal balances up to \$417,000 (\$625,500 in Alaska and Hawaii) and 2 unit properties with principal balances up to \$533,850 (\$800,775 in Alaska and Hawaii) and up to 75% on 3 unit properties with principal balances of up to \$645,300 (\$967,950 in Alaska and Hawaii) and 4 unit properties with principal balances of up to \$801,950 (\$1,202,925 in Alaska and Hawaii).

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-65-66; *see also* GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 Prospectus Supplement at S-67.

221. The GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement continued:

Countrywide Home Loan's Expanded Underwriting Guidelines for mortgage loans with non-conforming original principal balances generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination of up to 95% for purchase money or rate and term refinance mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$400,000, up to 90% for mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$650,000, up to 80% for mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$1,000,000, up to 75% for mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$1,500,000 and up to 70% for mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$3,000,000. Under certain circumstances, however, Countrywide Home Loan's

Expanded Underwriting Guidelines allow for Loan-to-Value Ratios of up to 100% for purchase money mortgage loans with original principal balances of up to \$375,000.

For cash-out refinance mortgage loans, Countrywide Home Loan's Expanded Underwriting Guidelines for mortgage loans with non-conforming original principal balances generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination of up to 90% and original principal balances ranging up to \$1,500,000. The maximum "cash-out" amount permitted is \$400,000 and is based in part on the original Loan-to-Value Ratio of the related mortgage loan.

Countrywide Home Loan's Expanded Underwriting Guidelines for conforming balance mortgage loans generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination on owner occupied properties of up to 100% on 1 unit properties with principal balances up to \$417,000 (\$625,500 in Alaska and Hawaii) and 2 unit properties with principal balances up to \$533,850 (\$800,775 in Alaska and Hawaii) and up to 85% on 3 unit properties with principal balances of up to \$645,300 (\$967,950 in Alaska and Hawaii) and 4 unit properties with principal balances of up to \$801,950 (\$1,202,925 in Alaska and Hawaii). On second homes, Countrywide Home Loan's Expanded Underwriting Guidelines for conforming balance mortgage loans generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination of up to 95% on 1 unit properties with principal balances up to \$417,000 (\$625,500 in Alaska and Hawaii). Countrywide Home Loan's Expanded Underwriting Guidelines for conforming balance mortgage loans generally allow Loan-to-Value Ratios at origination on investment properties of up to 90% on 1 unit properties with principal balances up to \$417,000 (\$625,500 in Alaska and Hawaii) and 2 unit properties with principal balances up to \$533,850 (\$800,775 in Alaska and Hawaii) and up to 85% on 3 unit properties with principal balances of up to \$645,300 (\$967,950 in Alaska and Hawaii) and 4 unit properties with principal balances of up to \$801,950 (\$1,202,925 in Alaska and Hawaii).

GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 Prospectus Supplement at S-67; *see also* GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 Prospectus Supplement at S-68-69.

222. The Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 Prospectus Supplement stated:

The sponsor's underwriting guidelines permit first lien mortgage loans with loan-to-value ratios at origination of up to 100%, or 80% if at the time of origination of the first lien mortgage loan, the originator also originated a second lien mortgage loan. The maximum allowable loan-to-value ratio varies based upon the residential loan program, income documentation, property type, creditworthiness and debt service-to-income ratio of the prospective borrower and the overall risks associated with the loan decision. The maximum combined loan-to-value ratio, including any second lien mortgage subordinate to the sponsor's first lien mortgage, is generally 100% under the "Premium A," "A," "A-," "B+" and "B" risk categories, and 95% under the "C" risk category.

Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 Prospectus Supplement at S-38.

223. UNTRUE STATEMENTS AND OMITTED INFORMATION: The preceding statements were material at the time they were made because the riskiness of the RMBS investment is directly dependent on the quality of the collateral and creditworthiness of the borrowers. The preceding statements were untrue at the time they were made because the LTV ratios were higher than represented and the DTI ratios were higher than represented.

IX. THE CLAIMS ARE TIMELY

224. For actions brought by the NCUA Board as Liquidating Agent, the FCUA extends the statute of limitations for at least three years from the date of the appointment of the NCUA Board as Conservator or Liquidating Agent. *See* 12 U.S.C. § 1787(b)(14)(B)(i).

225. The NCUA Board placed Southwest into conservatorship on September 24, 2010. On October 31, 2010, the NCUA Board placed Southwest into liquidation and appointed itself as Liquidating Agent.

226. Actions brought under Sections 11 and 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act must be:

brought within one year after the discovery of the untrue statement or the omission, or after such discovery should have been made by the exercise of reasonable diligence In no event shall any such action be brought to enforce a liability created under section 77k or 77l(a)(1) of this title more than three years after the security was bona fide offered to the public, or under section 77l(a)(2) of this title more than three years after the sale.

15 U.S.C. § 77m.

227. Actions brought under Section 581-33 of the Texas Blue Sky Law must be brought no “(a) more than three years after discovery of the untruth or omission, or after discovery should have been made by the exercise of reasonable diligence; or (b) more than five years after the sale.” Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. Ann. art. 581, § 33(H)(2).

228. As the Federal Reserve Board noted in November 2008, the “deteriorating lending standards” and “the surge in early payment defaults suggests that underwriting . . . deteriorated on dimensions that were less readily apparent to investors.” Christopher J. Mayer *et al.*, *The Rise in Mortgage Defaults* 15-16 (Fed. Reserve Bd. Fin. & Econ. Discussion Series, Paper No. 2008-59).

229. The FSOC explained that the origination and securitization process contains inherent “information asymmetries” that put investors at a disadvantage regarding critical information concerning the quality and performance of RMBS. The FSOC Risk Retention Report described the information disadvantage for investors of RMBS:

One important informational friction highlighted during the recent financial crisis has aspects of a “lemons” problem that exists between the issuer and investor. An originator has more information about the ability of a borrower to repay than an investor, because the originator is the party making the loan. Because the investor is several steps removed from the borrower, the investor may receive less robust loan performance information. Additionally, the large number of assets and the disclosures provided to investors may not include sufficient information on the quality of the underlying financial assets for investors to undertake full due diligence on each asset that backs the security.

FSOC Risk Retention Report at 9 (footnote omitted).

230. In addition, Southwest and/or the NCUA Board as its Liquidating Agent are or were members of putative class in the case listed in Table 7, below. Therefore, the NCUA Board’s claims are subject to legal tolling of the various periods of limitation pursuant to *American Pipe & Constr. Co. v. Utah*, 414 U.S. 538 (1974) (“*American Pipe*”) and its progeny.

Table 7
Purchases Subject to Tolling Under American Pipe

CUSIP	ISSUING ENTITY	PURCHASER	TRADE DATE	AMERICAN PIPE TOLLING COMMENCEMENT DATE
3622EAAX8	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3	Southwest	2/21/2007	<i>NECA-IBEW v. Goldman</i> , No. 08-10783 (S.D.N.Y.) Complaint Filed: Dec. 11, 2008
3622ECAC0	GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5	Southwest	4/26/2007	<i>NECA-IBEW v. Goldman</i> , No. 08-10783 (S.D.N.Y.) Complaint Filed: Dec. 11, 2008

231. With respect to those RMBS purchases for which the NCUA Board asserts claims for Southwest under Section 11 of the Securities Act (Count One), the earliest date they were bona fide offered to the public – after accounting for *American Pipe* tolling – was not more than three years prior to September 24, 2010. Accordingly, the NCUA Board’s Section 11 claims on behalf of Southwest are not time-barred.

232. With respect to those RMBS purchases for which the NCUA Board asserts claims for Southwest under Section 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act (Count Two), the earliest sale date – after accounting for *American Pipe* tolling – was not more than three years prior to September 24, 2010. Accordingly, the NCUA Board’s Section 12(a)(2) claims on behalf of Southwest are not time-barred.

233. With respect to those RMBS purchases for which the NCUA Board asserts claims under state law (Count Three), the earliest purchase date/offering date with respect to those claims was August 24, 2006, or not more than five years prior to September 24, 2010. Accordingly, the NCUA Board’s state law claims on behalf of Southwest are not time-barred.

X. CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

COUNT ONE

**Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933
(GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3, GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5)**

234. The NCUA Board realleges paragraphs 1 through 264 of this Complaint, as though fully set forth here, except those paragraphs specific to offerings other than the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 and GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 offerings.

235. The NCUA Board brings this cause of action pursuant to Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933, with respect to Southwest's purchases of the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 and GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 certificates against Defendant Goldman Sachs, as the underwriter, and against Defendant GS Mortgage Securities Corp. as the issuer.

236. At the time the registration statement became effective, it (including the prospectus and any prospectus supplements) contained untrue statements and omitted facts that were necessary to make the statements made not misleading, as alleged above.

237. The untrue statements and omitted facts were material because a reasonably prudent investor deciding whether to purchase the certificates would have viewed them as important and as substantially altering the total mix of information available, as alleged above.

238. Southwest purchased the certificates pursuant to and traceable to a defective registration statement, as alleged above.

239. At the time Southwest purchased the certificates, it did not know of the untrue statements and omissions contained in the registration statement.

240. Goldman Sachs's and GS Mortgage Securities Corp.'s conduct as alleged above violated Section 11.

241. Southwest and Plaintiff sustained damages as a result of Goldman Sachs's and GS

Mortgage Securities Corp.'s violations of Section 11.

242. WHEREFORE, the NCUA Board requests the Court to enter judgment in its favor against Defendant Goldman Sachs and Defendant GS Mortgage Securities Corp., jointly and severally, awarding all damages, in an amount to be proven at trial, costs, and such other relief as the Court deems appropriate and just.

COUNT TWO
Section 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933
(GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3, GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5)

243. The NCUA Board realleges paragraphs 1 through 264 of this Complaint, as though fully set forth here, except those paragraphs specific to offerings other than the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 and GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 offerings.

244. The NCUA Board brings this cause of action pursuant to Section 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act, with respect to Southwest's purchases of the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3 and GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5 against Defendants Goldman Sachs and GS Mortgage Securities Corp. as the statutory sellers and/or offerors of those certificates.

245. Defendants Goldman Sachs and GS Mortgage Securities Corp. offered to sell and sold the securities to Southwest through one or more instrumentalities of interstate commerce (*i.e.*, telephone, faxes, mails, email or other means of electronic communication).

246. Defendants Goldman Sachs and GS Mortgage Securities Corp. offered to sell and sold the securities, for its own financial gain, to Southwest by means of the prospectuses and/or prospectus supplements, as alleged above, and/or oral communications related to the prospectuses and/or prospectus supplements.

247. The prospectuses and/or prospectus supplements contained untrue statements and omitted facts that were necessary to make the statements made not misleading, as alleged above.

248. The untrue statements and omitted facts were material because a reasonably prudent investor deciding whether to purchase the certificates would have viewed them as important and as substantially altering the total mix of information available, as alleged above.

249. Southwest purchased the certificates on the initial offering pursuant to the prospectuses and/or prospectus supplements.

250. At the time Southwest purchased the certificates, it did not know of the untrue statements and omissions contained in the prospectuses and/or prospectus supplements.

251. Defendants Goldman Sachs's and GS Mortgage Securities Corp.'s conduct as alleged above violated Section 12(a)(2).

252. Southwest and the NCUA Board sustained damages as a result of Defendants Goldman Sachs's and GS Mortgage Securities Corp.'s violation of Section 12(a)(2).

253. Under Section 12(a)(2), the NCUA Board is entitled to rescind and recover the consideration Southwest paid for the certificates, minus principal and interest received.

254. WHEREFORE, the NCUA Board requests the Court to enter judgment in its favor against Defendants Goldman Sachs and GS Mortgage Securities Corp., awarding a rescissory measure of damages, or in the alternative compensatory damages, in an amount to be proven at trial; costs, and such other relief as the Court deems appropriate and just.

COUNT THREE

**Violation of the Texas Securities Act
Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. Ann. art. 581, § 33
(GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3, GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5
Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7)**

255. The NCUA Board realleges paragraphs 1 through 264 of this Complaint, as though fully set forth here.

256. The NCUA Board brings this cause of action pursuant to Section 33 of the Texas

Securities Act, with respect to Southwest's purchases of the GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-3, GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-5, and Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7 certificates against Defendant Goldman Sachs as the seller of those certificates.

257. Defendant Goldman Sachs offered to sell and sold the securities to Southwest by means of written and/or oral communications which included untrue statements of material fact and/or omissions of material facts that were necessary to make the statements made not misleading, as alleged above.

258. The untrue statements of material fact and omitted facts were material because a reasonably prudent investor deciding whether to purchase the certificates would have viewed them as important and as substantially altering the total mix of information available, as alleged above.

259. Defendant Goldman Sachs sold the certificates to Southwest in Texas.

260. At the time Southwest purchased the certificates, it did not know of these untruths and omissions.

261. If Southwest had known about these untruths and omissions, it would not have purchased the securities from Defendant Goldman Sachs.

262. Defendant Goldman Sachs's sales of the certificates violated Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. Ann. art. 581, § 33(A)(2).

263. Southwest and Plaintiff sustained damages as a result of Defendant Goldman Sachs's violations of Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. Ann. art. 581, § 33(A)(2).

264. WHEREFORE, the NCUA Board requests the Court to enter judgment in its favor against Defendant Goldman Sachs, awarding a rescissory measure of damages, or in the alternative compensatory damages, in an amount to be proven at trial; costs, and such other relief

as the Court deems appropriate and just.

Jury Demand


Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury of all issues properly triable.

Dated: September 23, 2013

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